

IMMUNISATION FAST FACTS



28 APR 2021

The challenge from the MoH to Primary Care to 'Go Hard and Go Early' and vaccinate against seasonal influenza to the 65+ year patients has been taken seriously by general practice teams and we are seeing high rates of influenza vaccinations for this cohort. Great job everyone! This gives many over 65s, the opportunity to have their COVID-19 vaccination when they are invited, allowing for the mandatory two week gap.

If you have any questions about any of the topics in these *Immunisation Fast Facts*, contact Shanaz Khan, Immunisation Services Coordinator for Auckland PHO – shanaz@aucklandpho.co.nz

Influenza Vaccinations

- The programme for those people aged **under 65 years begins on 17th May 2021**
 - The start dates are later than in previous years based on information about vaccine availability provided by supplier, Seqirus
- The MoH requests vaccinators focus on immunising people eligible for a funded vaccine
- The influenza vaccination programme runs to 31 December 2021. All groups can be immunised through to December – remember to offer the influenza vaccination to pregnant women

The table below has the dates and vaccine details

Vaccine	Ordering and distribution	From 14 April 2021	From 17 May 2021
FLUAD® QUAD	Now	Adults aged 65 and over including health and other frontline workers aged 65 and over UPDATES 15 April: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ineligible adults aged 65 and over can purchase FLUAD QUAD • Occupational vaccinators can purchase FLUAD QUAD for workplace vaccination of adults aged 65 years or older 	All adults aged 65 and over – eligible and non-eligible
AFLURIA® QUAD	<u>Order from 27 April</u> Distribution in time for the Programme start date.		All people aged 5–64 years – eligible and non-eligible
INFLUVAC TETRA	Order from 27 April. Distribution in time for the Programme start date.		All children aged 3–4 years – eligible and non-eligible
AFLURIA® QUAD JUNIOR	Order from 27 April. Distribution in time for the Programme start date.		All children aged 6–35 months – eligible and non-eligible.



Click on the link for the [Summary of 2021 influenza vaccines table](#)

Gap between MMR and COVID-19 vaccines

Continue to allow a four-week gap when giving the MMR vaccine **before** the COVID-19 vaccine where possible. However, the gap can be reduced to two weeks when giving the MMR vaccine **after** the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Continue to allow a two-week gap between the COVID-19 vaccine and influenza vaccine where possible, regardless of the order they are given.

Why we leave a gap between COVID-19 and MMR/influenza vaccines?

Having a gap between the different types of vaccinations makes it easier to judge which vaccine may be responsible for any side effects. Note that there are no clinical safety concerns should the gap between vaccines be less than the recommendations above. Do not delay vaccination if such a gap is not possible.

The MMR and influenza vaccines can be given at the same time as can Zostavax and influenza vaccines. Thank you for continuing to take opportunities to protect people from influenza and measles as the COVID-19 vaccine programme rolls out. This [flowchart](#) may help you when doing this.

COVID-19 Vaccination

1. Vaccination for the 65+ year olds

Over the next few weeks residents 65+ years and **living in South and East Auckland** will be sent invites to book their COVID-19 vaccination. Residents 65+ years living in the **rest of Auckland** will start receiving the invite in coming months. Encourage family, friends and colleagues who receive an COVID-19 vaccination invite to get their COVID-19 vaccination.

2. COVID-19 Vaccination Journey for Patients – add to your website or patient communications

Please see below links to three different versions of the COVID-19 vaccination journey video explainer for those going to get their COVID-19 vaccination.

- Long version [here](#)
- Short version [here](#)
- Quick version [here](#)

(Subtitles in different languages will be added)

3. New email alerts for COVID-19 Information in a number of languages

The All of Government 'Unite against COVID-19' website now have email alert available for all the languages that are listed on the website. The new email update service will allow subscribers to receive an email whenever new translated information is available. The list of languages is available [here](#)

4. COVID-19 vaccine videos: health professionals share some basic information around the COVID-19 vaccination in the following languages:

- [Cantonese](#)
- [Hindi](#)
- [Korean](#)
- [Mandarin](#)
- [Punjabi](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)