**MEASLES IMMUNISATION ADVISORY PRIMARY & SECONDARY CARE**

**4 December 2019**

The Ministry of Health has asked general practices and PHOs to reserve vaccine for the priority groups to ensure that the most vulnerable people can be protected. They have recently updated the priority groups which are reflected below.

**RSE workers are unable to be immunised with MMR at the moment. HBDHB has submitted a plan to the Ministry to get approval to immunise this group.**

**Hawke’s Bay’s priority groups able to be vaccinated are outlined below**

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| **Group for vaccination** | **Active recall or opportunistic** |
| Schedule MMR vaccine 15 months, 4 years and under 5 years catch up | Active recall |
| One MMR vaccine 5 - 15 years  | Active recall if child has not had any MMR vaccination previously |
| One MMR vaccine to all susceptible contacts as part of outbreak management within a reasonable timeframe | As required – in liason with Public Health |
| One MMR vaccine infants 6 - 12 months travelling to Auckland or overseas to a country with an active measles outbreak - (\*Priorix on prescription from Dr or NP, MMRII can be administered by an authorised vaccinator without an individual prescription ) – at the discretion of practice staff preferably 2 weeks prior to travel | Opportunistic – MMR administered at 6 - 11 months of age is considered dose zero. The infant will still require the 15 month and 4 year MMR immunisations as per the schedule |
| Children 12 – 15 months travelling to Auckland or overseas to a country with an active measles outbreak Children 12-15 months at parental request | Opportunistic All four 15 month immunisations can be given at this time |
| Un-immunised eligible people under the age of 50 travelling from New Zealand to Samoa, Tonga, Philippines and Fiji or Un-immunised eligible people under the age of 50 hosting visitors in their household from the countries above. | \*New group added by the ministry in their advisory dated 20 November 2019Opportunistic whanau by whanau approach. Only available for the month of December 2019 ( HB specific group ). |
| Un-immunised eligible people travelling to a region where there is an active outbreak of measles – regions with measles outbreaks can be found at <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/watch/measles-global>  | \*New group added by the ministry in their advisory dated 20 November 2019 |
| One or two MMR vaccines ( 4 weeks apart) for frontline healthcare workers or practice staff that are unimmunised or have unknown immunity status | Active finding of non-immune front line health staff |
| One MMR vaccine on a case by case basis for eligible individuals whose life situation would be significantly impacted if vaccination was refused (this does not include school or early childhood teachers) | Opportunistic on discussion with practice nurse or Dr with reason for vaccination documented. Example for receiving initial MMR – family member recently diagnosed with cancer |

\* Priorix®

1. The administration of Priorix® to infants aged 6–11 months is off-label. There are no safety concerns.
2. Every dose needs to be individually prescribed.
3. Priorix cannot be administered to infants aged 6–11 months under a standing order.

M-M-R® II

1. Authorised vaccinators in primary care can administer the M-M-R II vaccine to infants aged 6–11 months without an individual prescription.
2. M-M-R II can be administered to infants aged 6–11 months under a standing order in any community based targeted immunisation programmes.

**MMR vaccination for non-priority groups**

Please add a recall in the PMS to contact those who request MMR vaccination but are not able to receive it at this time.

When stocks are secure, practices should offer MMR vaccine to all those who need it, to bring them up to two documented doses as per the Schedule.

**MMRII Vaccine brand packaging**

As your stocks of priorix diminish MMRII will be the vaccine brand that will be arriving at your practice. This vaccine has 5 vials with the freeze dried pellet and 5 vials of diluent contained within the same box – so 5 doses per box. This is to ensure that the correct diluent is used when reconstituting this vaccine.

Thank you for your ongoing support

 

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HBDHB HBDHB