

MEASLES IMMUNISATION ADVISORY

PRIMARY & SECONDARY CARE

1 November 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.

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

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 or standing order 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 vaccinations 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
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 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®

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

M-M-R® II

Authorised vaccinators in primary care can administer the M-M-R II vaccine to infants aged 6–11 months without an individual prescription.

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.

MMR Vaccine Brand Changes

There will be two brands of MMR vaccine being used in Hawke's Bay. From next week, MMR II vaccine will be delivered. This vaccine has vials with the freeze dried pellet in one box and the diluent in another box. Please house these boxes together in your fridge to ensure that the correct diluent is used when reconstituting this vaccine.

Ordering MMR vaccine


The Ministry of Health is requiring all MMR vaccine to be ordered through one point of contact. In Hawke's Bay this is Fiona Jackson, Immunisation Coordinator, HBDHB. To order MMR vaccine please contact Fiona at fiona.jackson@hbdhb.govt.nz, phone 027 243 6572 / 834 1815 ext 4371.

Thank you for your ongoing support



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