

Pharmacy MMR Vaccination Service

Capital & Coast and Hutt Valley District Health Boards
Update: 11 May 2021

Purpose

The purpose of this communication is to provide a one stop fact sheet for pharmacists delivering MMR vaccination services.

Background

In 2019 over 2000 people contracted measles, with over 700 needed hospitalisation. The majority of people who got infected were between the ages of 16-30 and weren't immunised. In CCDHB and HVDHB area up to 20% of young people (25,000) may not be fully protected against measles - We need pharmacists help to achieve our population immunity.

1. Overview

- As part of the response to the 2019 measles outbreak in New Zealand, several changes were made to enable trained vaccinators to provide funded MMR vaccine in pharmacies to eligible people.
- Pharmacies need a specific DHB contract in place to provide the MMR vaccination service. It can only be provided as a funded service to eligible people - there is no stock available for private use.
- The Measles campaign is currently scheduled to run through to the end of 2021

All young people who are within the 16-29 years age bracket - and unsure if they are fully immunised - should be offered an MMR vaccine*.

*Where clinically appropriate

2. Training on MMR administration

- 30-minute refresher (January 2020) – provides background on the 2019 measles outbreak and some practical MMR administration information.
- MMR administration (September 2020) – provides information on the switch from subcutaneous to intramuscular administration.
- Reconstituting the M-M-R II brand

3. MMR vaccines – technical details

- Both brands of MMR vaccine: *M-M-R II* and *Priorix* need to be reconstituted prior to administration - but the exact method is different for each (see below data sheet).
- You will need supplies of additional items like needles (the needle used for reconstitution is different to that used for administration) and for M-M-R II, a syringe (either 1 mL or 3 mL).
- The cost of MMR vaccine as listed in the Pharmaceutical Schedule is:
 - Priorix \$250.00/10 pack
 - MMR II \$112.50/5 pack.

Once you know which brand will be used, check the relevant data sheet on clinical and pharmaceutical particulars:

- Data sheet for Priorix
- Data sheet for M-M-R II

For further information please see [RPH Measles Website](#), [3A.6 MMR pharmacy Service Agreements](#) or email scott.emrys@ccdhb.org.nz

Resources

- Green Cross Health [Pre-vaccination checklist and consent form](#)
 - 16+ year olds can self-consent
 - Use: For pharmacist to document consultation and vaccination
- [Pre-vaccination screening tool](#)
 - Use: for Pharmacist to provide further detail on the rationale for each of the questions in the checklist to aid decision-making
- [Immunisation Handbook Appendix 7 on vaccine presentation](#)
- You can also review the resources from your Vaccinator Training

4. Free promotional material available

Please email scott.emrys@ccdhb.org.nz to arrange distribution for any promotional material
State: Pharmacy name, address and what you would like to order.

- Posters
- Teardrop flags
- Cards to place in script bags, t shirts, etc.

5. Changes to make it easier for pharmacies to provide MMR

Change 1 – Reclassification– Medicines Control has re-classified MMR vaccination to allow pharmacist and intern pharmacists to administer the vaccine. Their classification is now PRESCRIPTION EXCEPT WHEN administered by a vaccinator who has successfully completed a training course approved by the Ministry of Health and who complies with the immunisation standards of the Ministry of Health.

Change 2 – Reimburse unused-expired MMR stock.

ProPharma will now offer a credit for the return of Priorix MMR vaccine sold to pharmacy that has expired. Pharmacy should contact their ProPharma brand to arrange stock to be returned, stock must be expired, limited to up to one pack (or part there-of) per pharmacy, per batch/expiry.

The statement issued on the 5th April stating CC & HV DHB will reimburse expired stock is now invalid.

Further information, including a credit request form is now on the ProPharma website.

Change 3 – New Pharmacy Contract Service Schedule allows pharmacists to claim a service fee for administering the MMR vaccine - [Service schedule 3A.6 MMR pharmacy Service Agreements](#)

6. Eligibility

- People who are 16 – 29 years old - and unsure if they have received two MMR doses.
- We will allow up to 49 years if the person believes they are not vaccinated

For more information please see schedule [3A.6 MMR pharmacy Service Agreements](#).

7. Reporting

Please ensure you enter all vaccinations on the NIR immediately after vaccinating.

Please note: Unlike childhood vaccines, adult vaccines will not have any PMS/NIR scheduling options. Therefore, any recalls required for additional vaccines will need to be completed manually.

8. Claiming

In addition to claiming for the vaccine itself, you will be able to claim \$20.66 (GST exclusive) for MMR vaccination (s) given to a young person.

For further information please see [RPH Measles Website](#), [3A.6 MMR pharmacy Service Agreements](#) or email scott.emrys@ccdhb.org.nz

No co-payment is to be charged to people for the administration of the MMR vaccine

9. MMR Stock and ordering

- Currently, there is plenty of MMR stock in the supply chain and this is not expected to change.
- Over the course of the Measles Campaign (Present –October 2021) the CCDHB & HVDHB Measles Campaign will reimburse the costs of any unused-expired MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine that pharmacies hold - capped at 10 MMR vaccines per pharmacy.
 - It is therefore expected that all pharmacies that are contracted to deliver MMR vaccines, in CCDHB and HVDHB area - We are continuing to run ads encouraging people to get vaccinated at pharmacies therefore it is important pharmacies have MMR stock available for walk in patients.
- Ordering of vaccine stock is done through your usual wholesaler (Propharma or CDC) - the same way as you'd order flu-vax

10. Further information – links to other information sources

As pharmacist vaccinators may not have given MMR vaccines before, the following resources will help you to prepare for implementing this service.

- [Ministry of Health Website](#)
- [IMAC website has a specific page for pharmacists](#)
- [New Zealand Formulary](#)
- [Capital & Coast and Hutt Valley District Health Board Measles Website](#)
- [IMAC fact sheet on measles](#)
- [Patient Factsheet on Measles](#)
- [Immunisation Handbook chapter on measles](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccine schedule](#)
- Resources from your Vaccinator Training