

## **Update to Newsletter August 2010**

Following the publication of the August edition of the National Immunisation Newsletter the National Immunisation Advisory Committee have changed their recommendations for the 2010/2011 seasonal influenza campaign.

Pandemic H1N1 (2009) vaccine is no longer recommended for any at risk groups.

All remaining unused pandemic vaccine (Pandemrix and Celvapan) should be returned to the HSE National Cold Chain Service at the time of next scheduled vaccine delivery.

August 2010

# National Immunisation News

The newsletter of the National Immunisation Office

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### Contact Details



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

[www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie)

## Flu Campaign 2010-2011

This year two seasonal influenza vaccines will be in use:

Vaccine	Company	Pack size
Influvac	Solvay	10
Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (Split Virion) BP	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	10

Vaccine delivery will commence from September 20th.

### Is seasonal flu vaccine recommended for any new “at risk” groups this year?

**Yes** - In addition to the usual groups that receive seasonal flu vaccine the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) has recommended that seasonal flu vaccine be given to

- all pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy and up to six weeks post partum who have not already received pandemic (H1N1) 2009 vaccine,
- those with a body mass index (BMI) over 40
- people with regular contact with poultry, water fowl or pigs.

### Will some people need Pandemic Flu Vaccine as well as Seasonal Flu Vaccine?

NIAC has recommended that some people who are at increased risk of contracting the pandemic virus and developing complications should receive pandemic vaccine (Pandemrix) (if they have not already received a course of pandemic vaccine).

Please see the Frequently Asked Questions available at [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie) about this season's Influenza campaign.

- Please place your vaccine order with the Cold Chain Service.
- Return expired seasonal influenza vaccines
- If you have not received your delivery schedule from United Drug, please contact the Customer Services Department.

(United Drug: Phone 01 463 7770, Fax 01 463 7788, Email [vaccines@udd.ie](mailto:vaccines@udd.ie))

## Pneumovax II

Please check your stocks of Pneumovax II as some batches will expire at the end of October 2010.

If you need more stock you should only order what you will use by the end of October 2010.

Longer dated vaccine will be available for November deliveries.



## New Recommendations for Late Entrants

Following the recommendations of NIAC the Immunisation Guidelines for late entrants have been amended.

The recommendations are available for download at

[http://www.immunisation.ie/en/NEWHealthcareProfessionals/NEWGuidelinesforlateentrants/PDFFile\\_9494\\_en.pdf](http://www.immunisation.ie/en/NEWHealthcareProfessionals/NEWGuidelinesforlateentrants/PDFFile_9494_en.pdf)

Information on vaccination schedules in other countries is available at

[www.euvac.net/graphics/euvac/vaccination/vaccination.html](http://www.euvac.net/graphics/euvac/vaccination/vaccination.html) and

[http://apps.who.int/immunization\\_monitoring/en/globalsummary/Scheduleselect.cfm](http://apps.who.int/immunization_monitoring/en/globalsummary/Scheduleselect.cfm)

## New vaccine for Late Entrants aged 10 years and over

### IPV Boostrix (Tdap/IPV\*)

IPV-Boostrix is available from the National Cold Chain Service.

This is used for providing primary immunisation for people 10 years and over who require a Pertussis containing vaccine.



\* Tetanus, low dose Diphtheria, low dose acellular Pertussis, Inactivated Polio Virus vaccine.

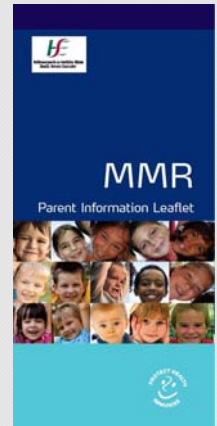
## Is egg allergy a contraindication to MMR vaccine?

This is a common query to the National Immunisation Office.

Egg allergy (even anaphylaxis) is not a contraindication to MMR vaccination.

Three large studies with a total of 1,000 patients with egg allergy found no evidence of anaphylaxis to MMR post vaccination. References are available on request.

Anaphylactic reactions to MMR are more likely associated with other vaccine components (Gelatin or Neomycin).



## Measles Outbreak in Crèches

Ireland is currently experiencing a measles outbreak, particularly in young children attending crèche facilities.



Vaccination with MMR vaccine is the only way to prevent measles.

Please ensure that children in your practice are vaccinated in accordance with the National Immunisation Guidelines.

Anyone who is not sure about their vaccination status should get another dose which will not do them any harm, and will protect against measles, mumps and rubella.



Further information is available on the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) website

News section <http://www.hpsc.ie/hpsc/News/MainBody,4428,en.html>

Publication section <http://www.hpsc.ie/hpsc/A-Z/VaccinePreventable/Measles/Publications/>





## Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine - Prevenar 13

A new pneumococcal conjugate vaccine - Prevenar 13 - will shortly be available from the Cold Chain. This vaccine protects against 13 strains of pneumococcal disease and will replace the current 7 valent vaccine.

All babies born on or after 1st October 2010 will receive this vaccine.



**Further information will be circulated to all practices shortly**

### New findings from recent immunisation research

#### Should children receive analgesia or antipyretics prior to vaccination?

Use of antipyretics e.g. paracetamol and ibuprofen, before or shortly after vaccination is common. However, a recent study has shown that antipyretics can reduce vaccine efficacy and should not be given routinely. They may be considered for treatment of fever  $>39.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  or for a large local reactions.

#### Should children be given sucrose or glucose solutions prior to vaccination?

New research has shown an analgesic effect with use of sweet solutions (at least 30% glucose or 24% sucrose) immediately prior to vaccination in infants between 1 and 12 months of age.

### National Immunisation Guidelines

The National Immunisation Guidelines are reviewed regularly by NIAC

Please make sure you check for updates online at

[www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie)

[www.rcpi.ie](http://www.rcpi.ie)

[www.hpsc.ie](http://www.hpsc.ie)



## Current Vaccines List Updated August 2010

## Primary Childhood Vaccines

Vaccine	Product Name	Manufacturer	Pack Size
6 in 1	INFANRIX HEXA	GSK	10
Men C	MENINGITEC	Pfizer	10
Men C	MENJUGATE	Novartis	1
PCV	PREVENAR	Pfizer	10
MMR	PRIORIX	GSK	10
MMR	MMR Vax Pro	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
Hib	HIBERIX	GSK	1
Hib	Act-Hib	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
4 in 1	TETRAVAC	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
4 in 1	INFANRIX-IPV	GSK	1

## Adult Vaccines

Vaccine	Product Name	Manufacturer	Pack Size
Td	DITE BOOSTER	SSI	5
Influenza	INACTIVATED INFLUENZA VACCINE (Split Virion) BP	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	10
	INFLUVAC	Solvay	10
Pneumococcal	PNEUMOVAX 11	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1

## Vaccines Used By HSE

Vaccine	Product Name	Manufacturer	Pack Size
BCG	BCG	SSI	5
Tuberculin	TUBERCULIN 2 TU	SSI	10
4 in 1	TETRAVAC	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
4 in 1	INFANRIX-IPV	GSK	1
MMR	PRIORIX	GSK	10
MMR	MMR Vax Pro	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
HPV	Gardasil	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1

## Restricted Vaccines Requiring Authorisation

Vaccine	Product Name	Manufacturer	Pack Size
Hepatitis A	HAVRIX Monodose	GSK	1
	AVAXIM	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
	HAVRIX Junior Monodose	GSK	1
Hepatitis B	ENGERIX (adult)	GSK	1
	ENGERIX (paediatric)	GSK	1
	FENDRIX (renal insufficiency)	GSK	1
Hepatitis A+B	HBVAXPRO 5mcg	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
	HBVAXPRO 10mcg	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
	HBVAXPRO 40mcg	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
Hepatitis A+B	TWINRIX (adult)	GSK	1
	TWINRIX (paediatric)	GSK	1
Td/IPV	Revaxis	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
Tdap/IPV	IPV-Boostrix	GSK	1

## HPV Vaccination Programme



The Health Service Executive has commenced the HPV Vaccination Programme in second-level schools. The HPV vaccine will protect girls from developing cervical cancer when they are adults and will be available free of charge from the HSE.

All girls who are starting 1st Year and 2nd Year in September 2010 will be offered HPV vaccine this year. Vaccines will in the most part be given to girls in second-level schools by HSE immunisation teams, with some girls being invited to HSE clinics for their vaccine.

Further information available at [www.hpv.ie](http://www.hpv.ie)



Visit our website  
[www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie)  
for vaccine information

## National Immunisation Office Staff

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[www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie)