



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

National Immunisation Office
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25th August 2014

IMPORTANT NEWS

Re: Changes to the primary childhood and school immunisation schedule

Dear Doctor

The National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) has recently revised their online Immunisation Guidelines at www.immunisation.ie

I would like to draw your attention to the recommendations for Meningococcal C (MenC) vaccine due to concerns about waning adolescent immunity.

NIAC has recommended changing the MenC immunisation schedule in the primary childhood programme from three doses at 4, 6 and 13 months to two doses at 4 and 13 months and introducing a MenC adolescent booster at 12-13 years.

The HSE is introducing a MenC booster for students in 1st year of second level school as part of the 2014/2015 school immunisation programme and this vaccine will be offered to students in the second or third term of the academic year (from January 2015).

The HSE is planning to implement related changes to the primary immunisation schedule during 2015 and will be in contact with you when a start date and further details are organised.

In the interim the current primary childhood schedule as outlined overleaf will continue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Kelleher', with a horizontal line underneath.

Dr Kevin Kelleher
Assistant National Director – Health and Wellbeing – Public Health and Child Health
Medical Council Registration Number: 19719

Primary Childhood Immunisation Schedule		
Age	Immunisations	Comment
2 months	DTaP/Hib/IPV/Hep B (6 in 1) + PCV	2 injections
4 months	DTaP/Hib/IPV/Hep B (6 in 1) + Men C	2 injections
6 months	DTaP/Hib/IPV/Hep B (6 in 1) + PCV + Men C	3 injections
12 months	MMR + PCV	2 injections
13 months	Men C + Hib	2 injections

6 in 1 Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Haemophilus influenzae B, Hepatitis B vaccine

Hib Haemophilus influenzae B vaccine

MenC Meningococcal C vaccine

MMR Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine

PCV Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine