

National Immunisation NEWS

The newsletter of the National Immunisation Office
Directorate of Population Health

2008: Issue 5

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HSE National Cold Chain Service

In December you should have received a laminated sheet with your Delivery Schedule for 2008 and your order "closure" date. Please contact Customer services if you have not received this.



Please place your order with Customer services by email vaccines@udd.ie, fax 01 463 7788, or phone 01 463 7770, before your closure date to ensure your next scheduled delivery.

Don't forget to include your account number with the orders and on all paperwork.

United Drug will be phoning your site to verify all your account details your cooperation and understanding would be greatly appreciated.

Attention All HSE Sites!

From March 1st 2008 United Drug will not phone HSE sites for vaccine orders

- HSE sites should fax or e-mail in their orders proactively so that there is written confirmation of the order
- If you are a HSE site please ensure that you have received the timetable for deliveries and last ordering dates, so you know when orders have to be placed.
- Emergency deliveries will not be approved if a site fails to order before the appropriate date.

HSE sites ordering for different users

We have been asked to divide our accounts into vaccines used by hospitals and vaccines used in the community and are aware that some hospitals order vaccines for use by both.

To help us HSE sites ordering vaccines should have a separate account for vaccines ordered for use by

- hospital
- PCCC
- occupational Health

Please

- contact Customer Services if you need to set up separate accounts
- place orders for each use with the correct account number.

Thanks!

Electronic Proof of Delivery

The National Cold Chain Service has recently introduced an electronic method of recording vaccine deliveries. This is now being rolled out in a phased basis across the country and will lead to more efficiency and less paperwork. We hope you agree!



Know what's right for vaccines!

Did you know that the box that the vaccine comes in is very important?

It provides an outer layer of protection against temperature and light. Vaccines should never be removed from their packaging until they are ready to use

Please note it is the batch number on this box that is required for all records

We get lots of calls about fridges being accidentally unplugged so hope the "Don't unplug me" stickers will help to reduce these. The National Cold Chain Service drivers are now distributing these stickers with each delivery.



Vaccine Returns Service

The Vaccine Returns Service has now recommenced. This was suspended due to one of the drivers receiving a needle stick injury from an exposed needle that was put in with some vaccines

The returns service is only for

- **unused expired vaccines in their original packaging**
- **vaccines that have had a break in cold chain storage**
- **vaccines with a product defect**

NO SHARPS SHOULD BE INCLUDED WITH RETURNS.

Please complete the Vaccine Return Form prior to returning vaccines. The driver will ask you to place any such vaccines into a box which is to be sealed with the returns form. If you need more of these forms please contact Customer Services.

Rotavirus vaccine

Some new mothers have received information leaflets about a new two dose oral vaccine Rotarix manufactured by Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK) which protects against rotavirus.

This vaccine is **not** currently recommended by the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) as part of the Primary Childhood Immunisation schedule and there are no plans to introduce it.

This vaccine is not available through the HSE National Cold Chain Service but can be sourced privately directly from the manufacturer



BCG

BCG has been out of stock since November 2007. This is due to regulatory problem that the manufacturers SSI are experiencing and they cannot get the official EU batch release documentation for BCG vaccine. The Irish Medicines Board will not permit release of stocks without this documentation. SSI estimates that this issue should be resolved by March 2008.

All mothers of newborn babies due BCG have been advised of the current vaccine shortage and their HSE Local Health office will contact them with an appointment when new stock arrives.

Td

We are experiencing a shortage of diTe (tetanus and low dose diphtheria) booster due to unexpected demand. Current limited stocks are being used for school immunisation programmes and GPs.

As per recent memos all hospitals must source their own supply of the alternative vaccine, Revaxis (dT/IPV) directly from Sanofi Pasteur MSD at 01 468 5600. The

National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) has recommended Revaxis until supplies of diTe booster are secured

We expect this issue to be resolved when a new tender for diTe booster is in place in June 2008 and the HSE National Cold Chain Service will then resume monthly deliveries of diTe booster to all sites.

Hib and Men C vaccinations for children born outside Ireland

Children born outside Ireland may not have received Hib or Men C vaccines as part of their childhood schedule.



Hib vaccine should be given to all those unvaccinated under 5 years of age and Meningococcal group C vaccine to all those under 23 years of age

Help to determine which vaccines a child has received can be found at

- www.euvac.net (which provides details of vaccine schedules in EU countries)
- www.who.int/immunization_monitoring/en/globalsummary/countryprofileselect.cfm (a WHO site with vaccine schedules in all countries).



Changes to Primary Childhood Schedule

Additional funding has been provided to include pneumococcal conjugate and hepatitis B vaccines in the childhood schedule in 2008. This funding will be used for vaccine procurement as well as the development of training and information materials and a media campaign. It is planned to introduce these changes in **September 2008**. More details to follow...

Conference 2008

The 2008 Immunisation Conference will be held in the Carmelite Centre, Moate, Co Westmeath on Thursday 17th April 2008 prior to the start of the World Health Organisation's European Immunisation Week (21st -26th April).

International and national speakers will address a wide range of topics including Hepatitis B vaccination, new National Immunisation Guidelines, Communicating with parents, Evidence based practical aspects of immunisation and How to achieve 95% vaccine uptake in both primary and school immunisation schedules.



This year places are very limited and will be given to those from the HSE Midlands area. All presentations will be on our website after the conference.

Translations



Did you know translations of information leaflets are now available on our website in ten different languages?

Information on the current childhood immunisation schedule, BCG, MMR, 4 in 1 and Hib in Irish, Arabic, Chinese, French, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Romanian can be found at

www.immunisation.ie/en/LeafletTranslations/


VACCINES AVAILABLE FROM HSE NATIONAL COLD CHAIN DELIVERY SERVICE February 2008

PRIMARY CHILDHOOD VACCINES			
VACCINE	PRODUCT NAME	MANUFACTURER	PACK SIZE
5 in 1	INFANRIX-IPV +Hib	GSK	10
	PENTAVAC	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
Men C	MENINGITEC	Wyeth	10
	MENJUGATE	Novartis	1
	NeisVac-C	Baxter	1
MMR	PRIORIX	GSK	10
Hib	HIBERIX	GSK	1
4 in 1	TETRAVAC	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
	INFANRIX-IPV	GSK	1
ADULT VACCINES			
VACCINE	PRODUCT NAME	MANUFACTURER	PACK SIZE
Td	DITE BOOSTER	SSI	5
Influenza	BEGRIVAC	Novartis	10
	INACTIVATED INFLUENZA VACCINE (Split Virion) BP	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
	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
	TUBERCULIN 10 TU	SSI	10
4 in 1	INFANRIX-IPV	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
	HBVAXPRO 5mcg	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
	HBVAXPRO 10mcg	Sanofi Pasteur MSD	1
	HBVAXPRO 40mcg	Sanofi PasteurMSD	1
Hepatitis A+B	TWINRIX (adult)	GSK	1
	TWINRIX (paediatric)	GSK	1
IPV	INACTIVATED POLIO VACCINE	Sanofi Pasteur	1
PCV	PREVENAR	Wyeth	1
Td/IPV	Revaxis	Sanofi Pasteur	1

For up to date information: www.immunisation.ie

Here's the new fridge magnet with information on vaccine storage which is also being distributed by the National Cold Chain Service drivers

Know what's right for vaccines




Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive
www.immunisation.ie

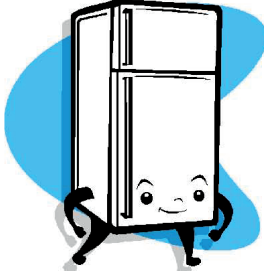
Vaccine Ordering

- Do a monthly stocktake and check vaccine expiry dates
- Always use your account number when ordering by fax, email or phone

When your vaccine arrives

- Always check your vaccine order before signing for it
- Place your vaccines in the fridge immediately
- Put new stock at back of fridge and shorter dated stock at the front





Vaccine Storage

- Never use out of date vaccines
- **Always keep the fridge temperature between 2 - 8°C**
- Store vaccines in their original packaging
- Store vaccines on shelves, not touching the sides of the fridge
- Record the fridge temperature daily
- Use a switchless socket and highlight that the fridge must not be unplugged

Vaccines Returns to National Cold Chain Service

- Return all expired vaccines in original packaging
- Return all vaccines not kept at 2 - 8°C

In the Event of Power Failure

- Keep the fridge door closed
- Contact the National Immunisation Office at (01) 867 6108

www.immunisation.ie

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