25th June 2007

IMPORTANT NEWS

Proposed Changes to Primary Childhood Immunisation Schedule

Dear Doctor

This letter provides advance notice of plans to introduce important changes to the Primary Childhood immunisation programme which will start in 2008. The proposed changes were recently recommended by the National Immunisation Advisory Committee and are as follows:

- The addition of pneumococcal vaccine
- The addition of Hepatitis B vaccine (as part of a 6 in 1 vaccine)
- Changes to the timing of Haemophilus influenza type B (Hib) vaccine
- Changes to the timing of Meningococcal C vaccine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Immunisations</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth</td>
<td>BCG</td>
<td>1 injection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>DTaP/Hib/IPV/Hep B (6 in 1) + PCV</td>
<td>2 injections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 months</td>
<td>DTaP/Hib/IPV/Hep B (6 in 1) + Men C</td>
<td>2 injections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 months</td>
<td>DTaP/Hib/IPV/Hep B (6 in 1) + PCV + Men C</td>
<td>3 injections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>MMR + PCV</td>
<td>2 injections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 months</td>
<td>Men C + Hib</td>
<td>1-2 injections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BCG  Bacille Calmette Guerin vaccine
DTaP  Diphtheria; Tetanus; and acellular Pertussis vaccine
Hep B  Hepatitis B vaccine
Hib  Haemophilus Influenzae B vaccine
IPV  Inactivated Polio Virus vaccine
PCV  Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
Men C  Meningococcal C vaccine
MMR  Measles Mumps Rubella vaccine

Detailed planning to implement these changes has now commenced involving all key stakeholders and recognising the pivotal role of the general practitioner. Further information will be sent to you as soon as it is available.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kevin Kelleher
Assistant Director Health Protection, Directorate of Population Health