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## IMPORTANT NEWS

### Re: Rotavirus vaccine for babies whose mothers were on immunomodulators

Dear Doctor

The National Immunisation Advisory Committee has updated Chapter 3 “Immunisation of Immunocompromised Persons” in the Immunisation Guidelines

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/guidelines/chapter3.pdf>

This contains a change to recommendations about rotavirus vaccine for babies whose mothers were on immunomodulators.

- Rotavirus vaccine should be **deferred until 4 and 6 months of age** if immunosuppression is anticipated to be moderate or severe.

This may occur in mothers

- with severe rheumatoid arthritis or inflammatory bowel disease receiving biological disease modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (bDMARDs)
- who have received a renal transplant

If in doubt, consult the supervising specialist.

- Rotavirus vaccine should be given at 2 and 4 months to babies of mothers treated with corticosteroids and/or low dose methotrexate (<20mg/week).

Yours sincerely

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