Midwives Immunisation Update
Course Standards

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<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Introduction

This course has been developed to provide New Zealand (NZ) midwives with an update on changes in immunisation theory, practice and policy for their scope of practice:

- Enable them to provide parents, caregivers and whanau with appropriate information, and facilitate informed decision making about immunisation
- Enable them to safely and effectively administer vaccines appropriate to their scope of practice

This Immunisation Advisory Centre (IMAC) online update course for midwives has been approved by the Midwifery Council of New Zealand and allocated five elective education points. These standards set the minimum requirements for the delivery of the midwives online update course in New Zealand and adhere to the Immunisation standards for vaccinators, in the appendices of the current *Immunisation Handbook* (Ministry of Health (MoH)).

This course consists of:

- Theory (4 hours) provided online
- Assessment is online and 80% pass is required to access evidence of learning

Resource websites

- MoH coded resources cited can be ordered from [www.healthed.govt.nz](http://www.healthed.govt.nz)
- Other MoH resources available from [www.health.govt.nz](http://www.health.govt.nz)
- IMAC resources cited available from [www.immune.org.nz](http://www.immune.org.nz)
- Medsafe datasheets available from [www.medsafe.govt.nz](http://www.medsafe.govt.nz)
- CARM resources available from nzphvc.otago.ac.nz
- Brighton Collaboration resources available from [www.brightoncollaboration.org](http://www.brightoncollaboration.org)
- Health and Disability Commissioner website resources available from [www.hdc.org.nz](http://www.hdc.org.nz)
- Guidelines for nurses on administration of medicines available at [www.nzno.org.nz](http://www.nzno.org.nz)

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Disclaimer:

The Immunisation Advisory Centre has taken all reasonable steps to ensure that information contained is reliable and accurate; it accepts no liability or responsibility for any acts of omissions, done or omitted in reliance in whole or in part, on the information.

This standard is intended to support online education provided for midwives and should be used in conjunction with other evidence based immunisation publications.

The Immunisation Advisory Centre takes no responsibility for the manner in which this information is subsequently used.
Course objective

Midwives completing this course will be able to provide high quality, safe and effective communication and delivery of relevant vaccines on the NZ National Immunisation Schedule

Pre-requisites

- Registered midwife with current Annual Practicing Certificate (APC)
- Pre-reading of the following chapters from the current Immunisation Handbook:
  - Processes for safe immunisation
  - Vaccination questions and concerns
  - Relevant disease chapters e.g. hepatitis B, tuberculosis
  - Appendix 3: Immunisation standards for vaccinators and Guidelines for organisations providing immunisation services

Assessment

Assessment is incorporated into the online update includes a minimum of twenty five questions, requiring an 80% pass, to assess participants learning/recall of the concepts reviewed.

Additional information

Participants will download a certificate of attendance and contact Midwifery Council to claim five continuing education points.

Unit timing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Minimum timings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pre-reading</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vaccine preventable Diseases and immunisation</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vaccine safety</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Current issues in vaccination practice for Midwives</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Improving and maintaining immunisation coverage</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Online open book assessment</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
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Unit 1: Vaccine preventable diseases and immunisation

Purpose
To provide midwives with an overview of vaccine preventable diseases, how vaccines work and relevant immunisation programmes to underpin discussion with parents and administration of relevant vaccines

Learning outcomes
At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

- Discuss vaccine preventable diseases, morbidity and mortality associated with them
- Briefly describe the New Zealand National Immunisation Programme
- Identify special immunisation programmes for pregnant women, mothers and newborns
- Identify appropriate resources for parents
- Describe the midwife’s role in preventing particular vaccine preventable diseases
- Describe the immune response, differentiate passive and active immunity and the role of booster doses
- Identify what vaccine programmes are relevant for midwives scope of practice

Course content should include

- Vaccine preventable diseases overview
- Particular emphasis on:
  - Rubella, influenza or varicella disease in pregnancy
  - Pertussis prevention in the newborn
  - Mothers who are positive for hepatitis B
  - Newborn risks for tuberculosis
- National Immunisation Schedule and special programmes for pregnancy and newborn
- How vaccines stimulate an immune response
- Recommended vaccine programmes for health care workers in obstetrics and newborn services

Resources
Refer to resource website list at beginning of document

- Childhood Immunisations booklet MoH code HE1323
- Immunise your children on time pamphlet MoH code HE1327
- The National Immunisation Schedule MoH code HE1308
- Hepatitis B information Guide MoH code HE9061
- Current Immunisation Handbook (MoH)
- Recommended and funded vaccines in pregnancy fact sheet (IMAC)
- Vaccination during breastfeeding factsheet (IMAC)
Unit 2: Vaccine safety

Purpose
To provide midwives with the opportunity to review and update their current knowledge on vaccine safety to ensure they can continue to administer vaccines safely as per the NZ National Immunisation Schedule.

Learning outcomes
At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

- Identify strategies to minimise the risk of adverse events following immunisation (AEFI)
- Diagnose adverse events following Immunisation (AEFI)
- Describe the management of AEFI
- Describe how and what to report to Centre for Adverse Reaction Monitoring (CARM), and how New Zealand vaccine surveillance contributes to global vaccine pharmacovigilance

Course content should include

- The World Health Organization (WHO)’s classification of AEFIs
- Essential components of a pre-vaccination check to reduce the risk of an AEFI
- Contraindications and precautions to specific vaccines
- Differentiation between anaphylaxis, hypotonic-hyporesponsive episode (HHE), faint and other hypersensitivities
- The equipment required for, and the steps in managing, an anaphylactic reaction
- Adrenaline administration, including:
  - Dosage
  - Administration
  - Side effects
- Reporting AEFIs to CARM and global pharmacovigilance approaches

Resources
Refer to resource website list at beginning of document

- CARM reporting form
- Brighton Collaboration Resources
- IMAC Anaphylaxis and vaccination factsheet
- Current Immunisation Handbook (MoH)
Unit 3: Current issues in vaccination practice for midwives

Purpose
To update knowledge of current legislation, policies and evidence based practice for the safe delivery of vaccines by midwives in New Zealand.

Learning outcomes
At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

- Outline the current NZ National Immunisation Schedule
- Discuss current procedures that affect the delivery of immunisations within midwives scope of practice.
- Describe safe administration of vaccines within midwives scope of practice

Course content should include

- The current NZ National Immunisation Schedule
- Recently approved vaccines for use in NZ
- Legislative changes including:
  - Accessing immunoglobulin and vaccines for maternal and newborn immunisation
  - Medicines handling, storage and transport requirements
- Review national or local policies including:
  - Vaccine storage and handling requirements
  - Documentation
  - Vaccine administration
  - Disease outbreaks

Resources
Refer to resource website list at beginning of document

- *Hepatitis B Information for Health professionals* MoH code HE1401
- *Hepatitis B Consent Form* MoH code HE1446
- *Hepatitis B personal record* MoH code HE1403
- *BCG Vaccine Information for Health Professional* MoH code HE2204
- *BCG Vaccine Information for Parents* MoH code HE2205
- *BCG Vaccine aftercare for parents* MoH code HE2226
- *IMAC The essential cold chain* factsheet
- Current *Immunisation Handbook* (MoH)
Unit 4: Improving immunisation coverage

Purpose

To outline the success of immunisation coverage and identify relevant strategies for midwives role in continuing improved coverage.

Learning outcomes

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

- Identify strategies that improve communication skill such as starting conversations, engaging with the person, active listening, enhancing trust and ensuring transparency to ensure effective immunisation conversations with parents
- Identify barriers to immunisations (provider and societal) and discuss strategies to address these
- Discuss how to address immunisation misinformation
- Obtain and use new resources related to immunisation

Course content should include

- The importance of health professional confidence in vaccination
- Barriers to immunisation e.g. processes, health literacy, vaccine concerns, vaccine hesitancy, anti-immunisation
- The risks of delaying vaccination
- Strategies to address immunisation issues with parents
- Models of immunisation communication e.g. risk communication, motivational interviewing, shared decision making, CASE model and the A-S-K approach

Resources

Refer to resource website list at beginning of document

- Current Immunisation Handbook (MoH)
- Immunisation audience research (MoH)
- The Debunking Handbook available from www.skepticalscience.com