

# **IMMUNISATION INFORMATION COURSE STANDARDS FOR NON VACCINATORS**



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## INTRODUCTION

This course has been developed to ensure that staff (not vaccinators) who are interacting with families, understand the essential facts about immunisation to share with parents, caregivers and whanau.

It is important to note that Registered or Enrolled Nurses, whose role includes the delivery of vaccination services, should attend a Vaccinator Training Course rather than this course.

As the potential attendees of this course will have a wide range of knowledge and experience, the content and presentation of the following units allows for some flexibility. The content is to be taught using the "Childhood Immunisation Booklet" and "In the Loop". Potential attendees may come from any community settings which have interaction with families such as, but not limited to:

- Health Promotion Units
- Playcentre
- Parent Centre
- Antenatal Groups
- Community Health Workers
- Kaiawhina
- Kohanga Reo
- Childbirth Educators
- Practice Managers
- Reception staff

### **Key Message:**

Many health providers apart from vaccinators have an important role in the provision of information related to immunisation. This course is designed to help them more accurately and effectively communicate this information.

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### **Disclaimer:**

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This publication is intended to support education sessions provided at Vaccinator Training Courses 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 OBJECTIVES

Attendees undertaking this course will be able to demonstrate the knowledge and expertise required to assist parents/whanau/caregivers to make informed choices relating to vaccination.

## PRE-REQUISITES

- Interest in the area of Child Health or Tamariki Ora Services/Health Promotion.
- Possess a copy of and pre-read the "Childhood Immunisation Booklet " protect your child (current edition)

## ASSESSMENT

Course attendees will be assessed through questioning during the session and using peer feedback during group work. This course is not formally assessed.

## MODEL PROGRAMME

5 to 15 mins	Welcome and introductions
30 mins	Vaccine preventable diseases
30 mins	The immune system
<b>15 mins</b>	<b>Break</b>
30 mins	Composition of vaccines
60 mins	National immunisation schedule, and overview including special programmes
<b>30 mins</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
15 mins	Storage and handling of vaccines
60 mins	Current issues and controversies regarding immunisation
30 mins	Vaccine administration, adverse reactions and documentation
45 mins	Strategies for optimal immunisation coverage

Units may be grouped together or delivered separately depending on flexibility required for specific needs e.g. modular / online programmes.

# UNIT 1

## VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To have the knowledge and understanding of specific diseases and their possible effects to ensure attendees are able to share this information in a relevant and accurate manner with their clients.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	At the end of this session attendees will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the early history of immunisation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The origin of vaccines</li><li>○ The impact of vaccination on the health of New Zealanders and other world populations in particular the Pacific Rim and other migrant groups</li></ul></li><li>• Be able to discuss the disease with parents or caregivers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Epidemiology, modes of transmission and clinical features of each disease</li><li>○ The importance of on time vaccination to prevent disease</li></ul></li><li>• Have the knowledge to describe the potential complications and long-term sequelae of the vaccine-preventable diseases</li></ul>
<b>CONTENT:</b>	Session content should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vaccine preventable disease DVD</li><li>• International and national disease rates</li><li>• Immunisation schedule chart</li></ul>

## UNIT 2

### THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To provide a basic knowledge and understanding of the immune system in order to explain how vaccines work.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	At the end of the unit the attendee will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe and differentiate between naturally and artificially acquired active and passive immunity</li><li>• Explain to their peers, parents or caregivers the immune response that results from the administration of a vaccine course and why boosters are sometimes needed</li><li>• Explain why on time vaccination is important</li></ul>
<b>CONTENT:</b>	Session content should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Components of the immune system</li><li>• Infant immune system</li><li>• Differences between active and passive immunity</li><li>• How vaccines stimulate an immune response</li><li>• Cold War DVD (optional)</li><li>• Group work or role play on explaining infant immune system responses to peers (optional)</li></ul>

## UNIT 3

### COMPOSITION OF VACCINES

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To have the knowledge and understanding of the different types of vaccines on the New Zealand Schedule and the composition of vaccines.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	At the end of this session attendees will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the different types of vaccines<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ List the live vaccines on the National Schedule</li><li>○ List the different types of inactivated vaccines</li></ul></li><li>• Identify resources to assist when discussing these issues with parents</li><li>• Have an understanding of the role of some vaccine components</li></ul>
<b>CONTENT:</b>	Session content should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity to identify ideal properties of a vaccine</li><li>• Differences between live and inactivated vaccines</li><li>• Identify and give rationale for various vaccine components</li><li>• Vaccine composition game (optional)</li></ul>

## UNIT 4

### NATIONAL IMMUNISATION SCHEDULE

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To introduce the vaccines on the New Zealand immunisation schedule and the rationale for their use.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	At the end of this session attendees will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the current National Immunisation Schedule including special programmes</li><li>• Be able to list the vaccines on the current National Immunisation Schedule</li><li>• Understand and be able to discuss with parents/caregivers the rationale for the timings within the schedule</li></ul>
<b>CONTENT:</b>	Session content should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of the current schedule and purpose</li><li>• National schedule game (optional)</li><li>• Immunisation schedule chart</li><li>• Childhood Immunisation Booklet</li></ul>

## UNIT 5

### STORAGE AND HANDLING OF VACCINES

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To describe the requirements for the correct storage of vaccines.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	At the end of this session attendees will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe the requirements for the storage and handling of vaccines</li><li>• Identify what actions are to take when vaccines have not been stored between 2-8 degrees</li></ul>
<b>CONTENT:</b>	Session content should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Description of the cold chain</li><li>• Monitoring of the cold chain</li><li>• Cold Chain Management Guide</li><li>• National Cold Chain Audit Information</li></ul>

## UNIT 6

### CURRENT ISSUES AND CONTROVERSIES REGARDING IMMUNISATION

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To utilise knowledge and resources to respond to common misconceptions and frequently asked questions.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	At the end of this session attendees will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe the factors that influence decision making</li><li>• Describe the reasons that parents defer immunising their children</li><li>• Be able to discuss vaccination with parents and give appropriate responses to commonly asked questions</li></ul>
<b>CONTENT:</b>	Session content should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group discussions / role plays around the reasons parents choose not to vaccinate their children</li><li>• Explanation and examples of resources available when discussing vaccination issues with parents/caregivers/whanau</li></ul>

## UNIT 7

### VACCINE ADMINISTRATION, CONTRAINDICATIONS AND DOCUMENTATION

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	An overview of the administration and correct documentation of vaccinations on the New Zealand Immunisation Schedule.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	At the end of this session attendees will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe where the common vaccination sites are</li><li>• List the information that needs to be documented in the Well Child/Tamariki Ora book following a vaccination</li><li>• Describe potential for both minor and serious adverse reactions</li><li>• Understand the process of transferring information to the NIR and MOH</li></ul>
<b>CONTENT:</b>	Session content should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suggested sites for vaccination of babies and adults</li><li>• The purpose of CARM and who and how to report adverse events</li><li>• The purpose of the Immunisation Certificate and when it should be completed</li><li>• Information on local NIR team</li></ul>

## UNIT 8

### STRATEGIES FOR OPTIMAL IMMUNISATION COVERAGE

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To utilise knowledge and resources to describe strategies to achieve and maintain immunisation targets to prevent vaccine preventable disease.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	<p>At the end of this session attendees will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify barriers within their client population and suggest ways to improve immunisation rates</li> <li>• Identify and describe the immunisation resources which would be most useful when discussing immunisations with parents/caregivers</li> <li>• Describe the role of the National Immunisation Register</li> </ul>
<b>CONTENT:</b>	<p>Session content should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National targets and current local immunisation coverage rates</li> <li>• Discussion surrounding timeliness of immunisations and the importance of timeliness</li> <li>• What has been done so far to increase coverage:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NIR</li> <li>○ Education</li> <li>○ Resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Identification of what attendees can do to encourage early notification and registration with GP's. Emphasise the importance of early enrolment with a PHO</li> </ul>