

From Consultant Epidemiologist/Senior Medical Officer
Dr Lorraine Doherty



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

An Roinn

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

HSS(MD) 20/2008

To:

Chief Executives, HSS Boards and HSC Trusts
Directors of Public Health, HSS Boards
Director of Nursing, HSS Boards
Directors of Pharmaceutical Services, HSS Boards/HSC
Trusts/CSA
GP Medical Advisers, HSS Boards
Consultants in Communicable Disease Control, HSS Boards
All Community Pharmacists
Medical Directors, HSC Trusts (*for onward distribution to all
Consultants*)
Nursing Directors, HSC Trusts (*for onward distribution to all
Community Nurses*)
All General Practitioners (*for onward distribution to practice staff
including practice nurses*)
Regional Epidemiologist, CDSC (NI)
Dr P Jackson, Chair, Regional Immunisation Committee
Dr J Mairs, Regional Procurement Pharmacist

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Our Ref: HSS(MD)20/2008

Date: 1 July 2008

Dear Colleague

Vaccine Supply – Pediacel - CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

Primary immunisation

There has been very high demand for Pediacel for infant and pre-school boosting in the last few months. In order to maintain vaccine supplies, Pediacel must now be reserved for primary immunisations only.

Surgeries should use up existing stocks of Pediacel for primary immunisations before placing additional orders.

Pre-school boosting

For pre-school boosters, surgeries should offer:

- any locally held stocks of Infanrix/IPV+Hib; or
- Infanrix/IPV + Hib/MenC (Menitorix) **or** Repevax + Hib/MenC (Menitorix)

Locally held stocks should be used up first before placing additional orders for pre-school boosting.

I appreciate that there may be some instances where children are scheduled to attend for their pre-school booster, and a surgery may be unable to source any locally held supplies of the above pre-school booster vaccines. In these circumstances, Pediacel can be offered as pre-school booster until the surgery receives its order for the above vaccines from their local designated Trust hospital pharmacy department.

We are working hard to ease pressure on supply, and extra stocks of vaccine are being obtained as soon as possible. I appreciate your efforts in ensuring locally held stocks of all vaccines are managed effectively, and in communicating this message on to immunisation staff in your area.

Yours sincerely



Dr Lorraine Doherty
Consultant Epidemiologist/Senior Medical Officer
DHSSPSNI

cc Mr A McCormick, Permanent Secretary
Dr Michael McBride, Chief Medical Officer
Dr E Mitchell, Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Ms C Jendoubi, Director Primary Care DHSSPS
Mr A Elliott, Director of Health Development, DHSSPS
Mr S Camplisson, Health Protection Team, DHSSPS
Ms K Simpson, Health Protection Team, DHSSPS
Mr J Farrell, Principal, GMS Contract Unit, DHSSPS
Prescribing Advisers, Health & Social Services Boards
Directors of Primary Care, Health & Social Services Boards
Regional Drug and Poisons Information Service
Dr B Dunn, Chair, GPC, BMA
Ms C Baxter, Information Office, DHSSPS
Members of the RACCDC Regional Immunisation Committee

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