

## Completion of Immunisation Programmes in Children and Young People

**For vulnerable youngsters, those with family members with Hep 'B' or moving in from high risk areas of the world, including those for Asylum Seekers**

### Action:

#### Routine Childhood Immunisations

- Check that the child has received all of the vaccines that are currently recommended as part of the UK routine childhood immunisation programme as appropriate for age:  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_122401.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_122401.pdf) (appendix 1)
- If there is a clear history of prior immunisation, with or without documented evidence, this may be entered into the computer system as having been given.
- Where there is no reliable history of previous immunisation, the child should be assumed to be unimmunised and a full course of immunisation should be planned
- Individuals coming to the UK part way through their schedule should be transferred onto the UK schedule and immunised as appropriate
- If course has been started but not completed it should be continued from where it was interrupted, there is no need to repeat doses or restart the course
- Plan to catch-up with the minimum number of visits and within the minimum possible timescale
- See HPA algorithm 'Vaccination of Individuals with Uncertain or Incomplete Immunisation Status'  
[http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb\\_C/1194947406156](http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947406156) (appendix 2)
- Check general health and fitness for immunisation

**Note:** 'Green Book' guidance supersedes information contained in the Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC)

## Selective immunisations

### BCG vaccine

- Check BCG status if the child has lived in a high risk country or has a parent or grandparent who has lived in a high risk country i.e. where the annual incidence of TB is 40/100,000 or greater. A list of countries is available on the HPA website <http://www.hpa.org.uk/Topics/InfectiousDiseases/InfectionsAZ/Tuberculosis/TBWorlwideData/>
- If the child requires screening check that this has been arranged. If not notify the North of Tyne TB team:  
Gary Holden and Fiona Cook  
Geoffrey Rhodes Health Centre  
Algernon Road  
Byker  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE6 2UZ  
Tel: 0191 219 6153  
Mobile: 0772 192 2506

### Hepatitis B, C and HIV

- Enquire if the child or any family member has Hep 'B' infection or if the child is in an at risk group for hepatitis B vaccine
- Arrange blood test for Hep 'B' and Hep 'C' as appropriate and arrange a course of Hep B immunisation using the accelerated schedule of 0,1,2 and 12 months with a booster dose at 5 years. The first dose should be given and not withheld while waiting the results of any screening tests.
- If found to be positive for Hepatitis B the vaccination course can be discontinued.
- If positive for Hepatitis B or C refer to Dr Steve Hodges or Dr Michelle Zuckerman, Paediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Great North Children's Hospital (GNCH)
- If there is high risk of HIV, parents should be asked if they wish to be tested for HIV. If mother is known HIV positive refer to Dr Terry Flood at Paediatric Infectious Diseases Dept at GNCH.

### Influenza and Pneumococcal vaccine

- Enquire if the child is in an at risk group for influenza or pneumococcal vaccine
- If in an at risk group for influenza advice re need for annual seasonal flu vaccine

- If in an at risk group for pneumococcal disease ensure that the child has received an appropriate course of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) and in addition a single dose of pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPV) after their second birthday and at least two months after the last dose of PCV.

If in any doubt, please contact:

Dr Peter Jones, Community Paediatrician at the GNCH, 0191 233 6161 ext 23362, email: [peter.jones4@nuth.nhs.uk](mailto:peter.jones4@nuth.nhs.uk)

or Helen Robinson, Public Health Specialist/Immunisation Coordinator 0191 217 2979, email [helen.robinson@northoftyne.nhs.uk](mailto:helen.robinson@northoftyne.nhs.uk) for further information

or Julia Waller, Senior Health Protection Nurse, Health Protection Agency Tel 0844 2253550, email [Julia.Waller@HPA.org.uk](mailto:Julia.Waller@HPA.org.uk)