

VACCINATOR TRAINING INFORMATION:

Qualified staff (i.e. nurse or pharmacists):

- Need to complete a foundation education programme to become an authorised vaccinator. The VHW role does not fit within the nursing competencies, because it does not allow for them to take informed consent, or provide screening, which are skills a qualified health professional must demonstrate at all times when vaccinating.
- Flexible Learning Vaccinator Foundation Course - online learning approx. 14 hours, & a four-hour face-to-face (kanohi ki te kanohi) training at the Waikato Wānanga (19th & 20th November 2024, Waahi Paa, 177C Harris Street, Huntly). Please note that the online learning needs to be completed prior to attending the face-to-face training.
- This is followed by a theory assessment, online.
- **Gaining the required practical skills:** Once you have completed the theory assessment, students need to be supported to develop the required clinical skills, while working in a clinical setting. This is done by working alongside an experienced vaccinator, initially just observing and then vaccinating with supervision/ support. Note, standing orders or prescriptions will be required. Once students feel confident, they complete a formal clinical assessment with an approved assessor. To become authorised for whole of life [all ages] at least one of the required 2 vaccination events must include tamariki aged under two, and a vaccine given into the vastus lateralis [leg].
- *Qualified staff who have previously been authorised vaccinators may be able to re-qualify by completing an update course. Please provide information so we can identify if this would be appropriate or if they will need to complete foundation education, and/or clinical assessment.*
- *Authorised vaccinators currently only working with adults can up-skill to whole of life by completing the Extended Vaccinator Skills (whole of life) online education. They would also benefit from attending either an update course or the practical part of the Flexible Learning Vaccinator Foundation Course (although this is not compulsory).*

Vaccinating Health Worker (VHW) training stage 1 & 2 are for non-qualified staff only:

- VHWs can administer a limited range of vaccines under the supervision of a vaccinator who is a registered health professional vaccinator (supervisor). The vaccines VHWs can administer depend on their stage of authorisation.

Working as a VHW see <https://www.immune.org.nz/immunisation-workforce/vaccinating-health-workers-vhws> for full information.
- To train as a VHW stage 1, applicants must have a qualified authorised vaccinator available at all times when they are vaccinating. Note: they are not allowed to take informed consent or provide the essential pre-vaccination screening, so for every vaccination event an authorised vaccinator will need to complete these tasks as well as providing supervision for the VHW. See link above for more information. *We do require that employers confirm that they understand this and that they have the appropriately qualified staff available to work with the VHWs.*

To progress from Stage 1 to Stage 2, a VHW must:

- Have the support of their employer and an authorised vaccinator available as supervisor.
- Be authorised as a VHW stage 1.

- Provide documentation to confirm they have administered 25 vaccines over the past 6 months and administered vaccines for at least 8 weeks.
- Completed online Second Checker course (online free IMAC course).

The role of the VHW:

All authorised VHWs can:

- Check the consumer's details are correct.
- Follow the agreed prompt card questions, calling for support when any issues arise.
- Check screening has been completed and consent has been obtained by the supervisor.
- Give post-vaccination advice.
- Observe consumers during the post-vaccination period.
- Check and confirm vaccines prepared by a registered health professional (if they complete the Second Checker course).

Authorised VHW Stage 1 can:

- Administer COVID-19 and influenza vaccines to people aged 12 years and over.
- Administer Tdap and HPV9 vaccines to people aged 11 years and over.

Authorised VHW Stage 2, after completing online course and IMAC workshop can:

- Administer VHW Stage 1 vaccines.
- Administer MMR to those aged 11 years and over.

Then after workplace practice and assessment on tamariki aged under 11 years can:

- Administer MMR, COVID-19 Comirnaty and influenza vaccines to people aged 5 years and over.
- Prepare MMR and COVID-19 Comirnaty single dose and multi-dose vaccines.

Resuscitation training:

This is suitable for all levels of staff. They will need to complete an online Resuscitation for vaccinators course first and then attend two hours of practical CPR training. The length of this training may increase to 2.5 hours depending on the numbers of students participating in the practical and whether they are new to resuscitation training.