



VACCS line

Quarterly newsletter

Winter 2007/8 — Issue 6



Welcome to the winter edition of the VACCSline newsletter

Current Topics in Immunisation

Hib Catch up Programme

Few problems have been reported to VACCSline which suggests that the Hib catch up programme started on 10 September 2007 is running smoothly across the Thames Valley. This programme will continue until 3 March 2009. As advised in the December edition of Vaccine Update (available on immunisation.nhs.uk) supplies of Infanrix IPV/ Hib are exhausted and Pediacel should now be used for this pre school booster. Please take account of this when ordering to guarantee supply within your practice.

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine

HPV vaccine will be introduced for girls aged 12-13 years (school year 8) from autumn 2008, and thereafter. A catch-up programme will start in autumn 2009 and will run for two years:

- ◆ girls aged 16 to 18 years (school years 12 and 13) will be offered the vaccine from autumn 2009
- ◆ girls aged 15-17 years (school years 11 and 12) will be offered the vaccine from autumn 2010

By the end of this catch-up campaign all adolescent girls under 18 years of age will have been offered the HPV vaccine. The Department of Health have developed some FAQs about the introduction to HPV vaccine which are available at the following link; http://www.immunisation.nhs.uk/files/HPV_Q&A.pdf . More details on this programme will be expected throughout 2008.

Pneumococcal vaccine (PPV)

VACCSline has been contacted regarding booster doses for pneumococcal vaccine. This immunisation is given to all over 65s and individuals in clinical risk groups at increased risk of disease. There is no recommendation for reinforcing doses of PPV except for individuals with no spleen, splenic dysfunction or chronic renal disease in whom immunisation is given every 5 years. Clinical risk groups who should receive pneumococcal vaccine are charted on Page 301 of the Green Book .

Meningitis C conjugate vaccine

Please remember that Men C conjugate vaccine is recommended for all individuals under 25 years of age and students of any age. A recent follow up of 4 cases of meningococcal disease amongst university students in the Thames Valley highlighted a lack of Meningitis C immunisation in overseas student. Practices should check the vaccine history of all individuals on their caseloads, particularly with young immigrants from countries that have recently joined the EU, e.g. Poland, Latvia , Lithuania or other areas of the world where it is not routinely used.

Hepatitis B immunisation started overseas

Some children transferring in from overseas may have commenced Hepatitis B courses according to the national schedule of their birth country. We advise that practices complete these courses. There is no charge to the patient in this setting.

Vaccine Advice for Clinicians Service

Call on 01865 225918 or email vaccs.line@paediatrics.ox.ac.uk

Updates to the Green Book - Immunisation against Infectious Diseases

The green book has been out in hard copy for nearly 12 months and is proving to be an invaluable resource for those working in immunisation. However updates have been made to some of the chapters during this period of time. Log on to http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Policyandguidance/Healthandsocialcaretopics/Greenbook/DH_4097254 to see the updated chapters. (Pertussis, Cholera, TB and Hepatitis B). Any further amendments will be made in this way.

NHS Immunisation Website Updated

The NHS immunisation website, www.immunisation.nhs.uk has been updated. It has a completely new look and will continue to be the primary resource for both parents and healthcare professionals. All updates will appear on this site as well as in the monthly publication Vaccine Supply delivered routinely to primary care with supplies of vaccine by Movianto.

Looking for your input

This newsletter is an ideal forum for sharing good practice about immunisation. If anyone has an example of some positive work they have done in the area of immunisation please email us about it to VACCsline and we can consider including it in the next newsletter. Examples could be improving coverage, reducing risk of vaccine errors, multi-disciplinary team working etc. We look forward to hearing from you on this.

Upcoming Immunisation Training		
Oxfordshire	12 March 2008— Immunisation Study Day	Contact: Kay Hewer, Training Administrator 01865 336815 http://www.oxweb.nhs.uk
Buckinghamshire	Intro to Immunisation 27/2/08 9am - 5pm, Aylesbury Immunisation Updates; 16/06/08 - 9am –1pm -SMH 23/06/08—9am –1pm—MKH 24/06/08—9am –1pm –WGH	Contact: County Training Development Team 01296 310069 www.countytraining.buckshealth.nhs.uk/clinical.htm117
West Berkshire	Contact: Thames Valley University's Enhancing clinical practice module Booking forms to enrol for the module are available on the Berkshire PCT intranet	
For all areas; Oxford Vaccine Group	A one day immunisation conference on Tuesday 26 February 2008. Topics include; Adult and Travel Vaccines (speaker from Nathnac), Childhood Immunisation Schedule, HPV and Varicella Update, Vaccine development and immunology. The course is £30 including lunch and refreshments. Further details can be found at the following weblink http://www.paediatrics.ox.ac.uk/ovg/teaching.html or call 01865 857420.	

VACCsline has been running since April 2005 providing consistent advice on childhood & adult (non travel) immunisations to health professionals across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and West Berkshire.

For advice about adult travel immunisations, practitioners are directed to the National Travel Health Network and Centre – 0845 602 6712, Monday – Fri day 9 - 12pm & 2 - 4.30pm.

VACCsline Hours	
Monday	10.30am to 4.15pm
Tuesday	9am to 1 pm
Wednesday	9am to 1pm
Thursday	9am to 4 pm
Fri day	9am to 1 pm

Vaccine Advice for Clinicians Service

Part of Oxford Vaccine Group, CCVTM, Churchill Hospital, Old Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LJ, and Thames Valley Health Protection Unit, Richards Building, Old Road, Headington. Oxford. OX3 7LG