

WEEK ENDING 1 July 2016

Getting ready for the AIR

Contents:

- Getting ready for the AIR
- Health advice re. Zika virus
- Computerised vaccine fridge logger is now mandatory
- New NSW Health webpage for Immunisation Providers
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Vaxtracker results

HNELHD Immunisation

Contact Details:

49246477

(Newcastle) or

67648000

(Tamworth) then

press 1, 1

Email:

phenquiries@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au

Immunisation calls and emails are answered by the immunisation officer on call.

From the 1 September 2016 the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) becomes the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR). Vaccinations administered to all ages will be registered on the AIR.

If your facility, public or private do not currently have access to online ACIR now is the time to act.

Any facility with a provider number can obtain access to the ACIR, if your facility doesn't have a provider number, click here for the online form and details:

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/services/medicare/australian-childhood-immunisation-register-health>

If you have a provider number, request access through the ACIR site <https://www1.medicareaustralia.gov.au/ssl/acirCIRGRACC> and follow these directions.

Although not compulsory - access to ACIR is essential.

How to access ACIR

- Google – 'request access to ACIR',
- fill in the boxes and wait for your letter
- Remember to check the address that the provider number you use is linked to, as this is where the letter will be sent (not necessarily the practice address)
- Keep the password somewhere safe! And remember what provider number you used. Me, I take a photo of the screen as an easy reminder. Any questions – ring or email us, we have a cheat sheet.

Zika Virus

Health Advice for Travellers to countries with current or recent local transmission of Zika virus including Brazil for the 2016 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games

NSW Health website: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/alerts/Pages/Travel-advice-Summer-Olympics-Rio-2016.aspx

Smartraveller advice re: Indonesia

<http://smartraveller.gov.au/Countries/asia/south-east/Pages/indonesia.aspx>

Countries with current or recent local transmission of Zika virus

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-zika-countries.htm>

WHO advice:

www.who.int/mediacentre/news/statements/2016/zika-olympics/en/
www.who.int/ith/updates/20160621/en/



Health

Hunter New England
Local Health District



Highlights from the 15th National Immunisation Conference

Flu vaccination of children - evidence to suggest children are the main drivers of influenza transmission. The UK is currently undertaking a program of vaccination of primary aged children - <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/child-flu-vaccine.aspx>

The future of vaccine delivery - Nanopatch technology - <http://www.vaxxas.com/nanopatch-technology>

Heterologous - the use of live vaccines for their protection against non-targeted pathogens. One example was presented at the conference.

Melbourne Infant Study: BCG for Allergy and Infection Reduction in Children

www.mcri.edu.au/news/vaccine-could-reduce-rate-allergy-and-infection-children

Another is our own **HMRI AUSPICE Study** - the study will formally test whether the existing pneumococcal vaccine can not only reduce invasive pneumococcal disease but also help to prevent heart attack and stroke.

hmri.org.au/news-article/auspicious-new-research-prevent-heart-attack-and-stroke

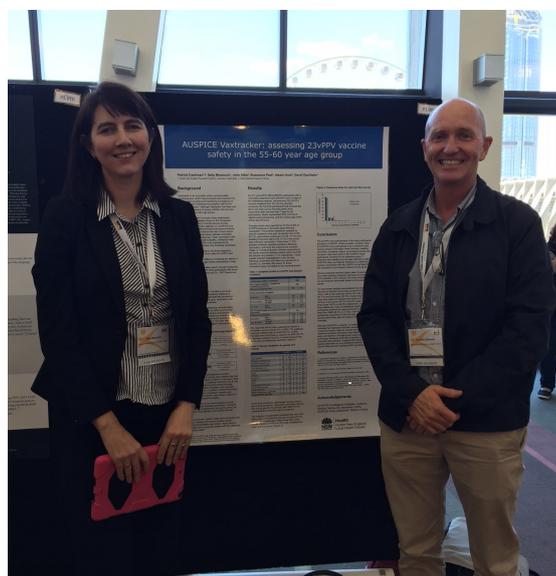
Poster presentations:

One from Jody, Angela and myself on vaccination recommendations after splenectomy. Our results indicated that Only 17 of the 46 patients had vaccinations recorded that fully met recommendations, 18 were incompletely vaccinated and 11 had no vaccinations recorded.

One from Patrick and Sally on Vaxtracker

Shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (SIRVA) poster - an article in the Australian Family Physician reminds us of the importance of correct vaccine delivery.

www.racgp.org.au/afp/2016/may/don%E2%80%99t-aim-too-high-avoiding-shoulder-injury-related-to-vaccine-administration/



VACCINE FRIDGE COMPUTERISED TEMPERATURE LOGGINGS

Deciding if vaccines can be kept in the event of a cold chain breach requires careful consideration of temperatures and "time out of zone". This is made easier if we can look at the logger file, not just a faxed copy.

To send your logger file:

1. Go to the location where the file is stored. (if you don't know where this is, ask someone)
2. Right click on the file and select the option to SEND. This should attach the file to an email
3. Email to: phenquiries@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au in the subject line write :
Att: Immunisation team

New webpage for immunisation providers on the NSW MoH Website

When you go to the NSW MoH Immunisation Programs homepage, there is a new link to a dedicated page for Immunisation Providers.

www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/default.aspx

The screenshot shows the 'Immunisation Programs' page. A red arrow points from the text 'Click on 'More Information'' to the 'More information' link under the 'Immunisation Providers' section. Another red arrow points from the text 'Some highlights' to a list of items: 'NSW Immunisation Schedule', 'Vaccine storage', 'Catch-up schedule for children aged 10 to 19 years', and 'Accessing the ACIR'. Red arrows also point from these items to their respective links in the 'Immunisation Providers' section.

Click on 'More Information'

Immunisation Programs

- Alerts
 - NEW NSW Immunisation Schedule
 - Questions & Answers (NSW Immunisation Schedule)
 - 2016 seasonal influenza
- Immunisation Providers
 - More information
 - Public Health Units 1300 066 055

Immunisation Providers

- Vaccine Information
 - NSW immunisation schedule
 - NSW Immunisation Schedule Q&A
 - Additional vaccines provided free in NSW
 - Catch up schedule for children aged 10-19 years
 - Seasonal influenza vaccination 2016
- Cold Chain
 - Strive for 5 (national vaccine storage guidelines 2013)
 - Cold chain management
 - Cold chain breaches
- Clinical Information
 - Rotavirus vaccine and intussusception
 - Pneumovax 23 recommendations about revaccination (2nd dose)
 - RACGP webinars on immunisation
 - Pertussis vaccination recommendations for pregnant women
 - RANZCOG communicate on pertussis immunisation in third trimester of pregnancy
 - Adverse events following immunisation
- Vaccination Authorities
 - Authority for registered nurses and midwives
 - Influenza vaccination by pharmacists
 - Authority for residential facilities
- Immunisation Registers
 - Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR)
 - Accessing the ACIR secure site
 - Reporting to the national HPV register
- Vaccine Ordering
 - Online vaccine ordering
 - How to order vaccines online
 - Receiving a vaccine delivery
 - Order forms

Some highlights

- NSW Immunisation Schedule
- Vaccine storage
- Catch-up schedule for children aged 10 to 19 years
- Accessing the ACIR

Report on antimicrobial resistance, Aura 2016

On any given day in an Australian hospital (in 2014, the source of data used), 38.4 per cent of patients were being administered an antimicrobial. Of these prescriptions, 24.3 per cent were noncompliant with guidelines and 23 per cent were considered inappropriate, either because the antimicrobial wasn't needed, the spectrum of the type chosen was too broad, or the duration, dose or frequency of treatment was incorrect. Inappropriate use was highest for surgical prophylaxis and respiratory tract infections.

In the community, high volumes of antimicrobials are prescribed unnecessarily for respiratory tract infections. Again, that will be unsurprising to many.

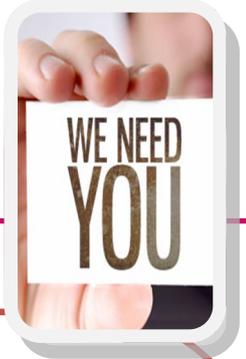
Click here for the full report.

<http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications/aura-2016-first-australian-report-on-antimicrobial-use-and-resistance-in-human-health/>





Vaxtracker Results



Vaxtracker and the 2016 Influenza Vaccine: safety profile excellent in young children

Thank you to clinics using the Vaxtracker program for Influenza vaccine safety surveillance in children this year. Vaxtracker data contributes to the AusVaxSafety network. Early data analysis indicates that reaction rates for all influenza vaccines approved for children in the 6 months – 5 year age groups are low and well within safety limits. Symptoms reported by parents and carers of recently vaccinated children have been mild and resolved within the 1-2 days. The most commonly reported symptoms including tiredness, irritability, and localised injection reactions, with fever reported in 3% of children. For further information: <http://www.ncirs.edu.au/vaccine-safety/ausvaxsafety/>

We will continue to use Vaxtracker to monitor the safety of the childhood Influenza and DTPa vaccines, and in November 2016 we plan to monitor the introduction of the shingles vaccine Zostavax to the National Immunisation Program for 70-79 year olds. If you would like to become part of the Vaxtracker network, please contact Sally Munnoch on 02 49246477 or sally.munnoch@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au



Parents are still receiving letters from Centrelink advising that their child is overdue for vaccines. Some parents are being told what vaccines are missing. This advice should only come from a clinician and can only be found by accessing ACIR where you can find out exactly what is missing to qualify a child as fully up to date with vaccinations.

Please see previous To The Point newsletters for further information. www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/hneph/Immunisation/Pages/Immunisation-To-The-Point-Newsletters.aspx