

Pharmacist Vaccinator Statement

1. The Government has set a clear policy direction for delivering health services within a more integrated model.
2. New approaches to immunisation encourage clinical integration and collaboration between providers to increase the pool of vaccinators, improve access to vaccination and deliver improved services.
3. The Pharmacy Council supports the Government's initiative for general practice and pharmacy to work more closely together to deliver better, sooner, more convenient services to patients.
4. Pharmacists who are vaccinators must have the appropriate knowledge and skills to competently deliver immunisation services. With approved training and proper facilities, pharmacists offering a vaccination service have an opportunity to become more involved in integrated primary health care services.
5. Pharmacists who are immunisation providers need to ensure that they are using, complying and keeping up-to-date with the current requirements as outlined in the electronic edition of the Immunisation Handbook. This can be found on the Ministry of Health website at:

<http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/immunisation-handbook-2014>
6. Pharmacists are required to complete a refresher course every two years to maintain their vaccinator status. Where a pharmacist's vaccinator approval has expired more than six months previously and it is more than five years since their initial vaccinator training they will be required to attend, complete and pass another vaccinator training course which must comply with the current edition of the IMAC Standards for Delivery of Vaccinator Training Courses.

Effective date

7. Effective: March 2016 – this statement is scheduled for review by March 2019. Legislative changes may make this statement obsolete before this review date.