

AUTHORISATION OF VACCINATORS IN TARANAKI PURSUANT TO CLAUSE 44A OF THE MEDICINES REGULATIONS 1984

Rationale:

Vaccinator authorisation is a legal process which allows nurses and other registered health workers to administer vaccines (which are prescription medicines) for the purposes of an approved immunisation programme without requiring a prescription or standing order written by a medical practitioner. Vaccinator authorisations are pursuant to clause 44A of the Medicines Regulations 1984¹ and to the authorisation protocol outlined in the 2017 Immunisation Handbook².

Standard:

All applicants need to have attended, completed and passed a vaccinator training course that meets the current *Standards for Delivery of Vaccinator Training Courses* published by the Immunisation Advisory Centre (IMAC).

Authorisation is granted on the assumption that vaccinators will always have a current annual practising certificate and that all authorised vaccinators will work within their scope of practice.

All applicants need to also provide documentary evidence of being able to “carry out basic emergency techniques including resuscitation and the treatment of anaphylaxis” as outlined in Appendix 4 of the 2017 Immunisation Handbook². The required minimum requirement is NZRC ‘Health Professional Responder, CORE Immediate – Adult and Child’.

Authorised vaccinators intending to continue vaccinating under section 44A of the Medicines Regulations 1984 need to reapply every two years before their authorisation expires and need to attend an update session (a specific education update for trained vaccinators (minimum of four hours) either by attending an education course or completing an online training programme) at least every two years.

Scope:

Registered health professionals wishing to independently vaccinate using all or specific vaccines on the National Immunisation Schedule (the Schedule) and any other vaccine approved by a medical officer of health or the Director-General. This would not normally include travel vaccines.

¹ Medicines Regulations of 1984 (SR1984/143), section 44A (accessed 3 August 2017)
<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/1984/0143/latest/DLM96579.html>

² Ministry of Health. 2017. Immunisation Handbook 2017. Wellington: Ministry of Health
<http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/immunisation-handbook-2017>

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| AUTHORISED BY: Medical Officer of Health | | |

Taranaki DHB Flow Chart for Initial Authorised Vaccinator Application

Health
Professional
seeking initial
Authorisation



Vaccinator Authorisation - Written Evidence Requirements

1. Demonstrate that within the preceding 12 months you have attended, completed and passed a vaccinator training course (VTC) that meets the current Standards for Delivery of VTC's published by the Immunisation Advisory Centre.
2. An assessment of clinical practice as part of the VTC.
3. Provide evidence that you hold a current practising certificate.
4. Provide evidence of resuscitation certification equivalent to that set for NZRC 'Health Professional Responder, CORE Immediate – Adult and Child' within the last 2 years.



Written evidence of following requirements are sent to the P.A. for the Medical Officer of Health

See page 6



**Authorisation* granted for two years from date of VTC.
Applicant sent authorisation within 10 working days of receipt of their application.**

*Please note that authorisation is granted on the assumption that vaccinators will always have a current annual practising certificate and that all authorised vaccinators will work within their scope of practice.

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Taranaki DHB Flow Chart for Authorised Vaccinators (AVs) wishing Reauthorisation



- Vaccinator Reauthorisation - Written Evidence Requirements**
1. Provide evidence that you have attended a vaccinator update course that meets the current IMAC Vaccinator Update Course Standards during the last two years.
 2. Provide evidence of holding a current practising certificate.
 3. Provide a summary of your immunisation practice over the past 12 months which includes the type of practice, types of vaccinations given and other responsibilities related to immunisation.
 4. Provide evidence of resuscitation certification equivalent to that set for NZRC 'Health Professional Responder, CORE Immediate – Adult and Child' within the last 2 years.



Written evidence of following requirements are sent to the P.A. for the Medical Officer of Health

See page 7

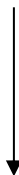
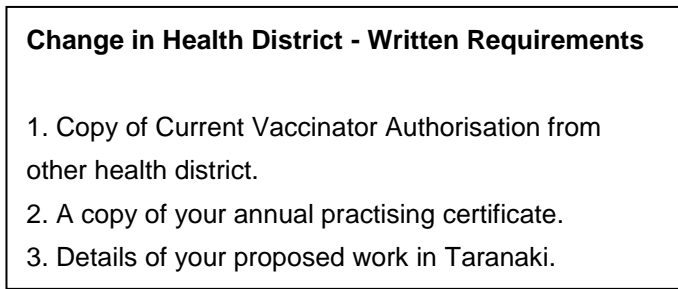
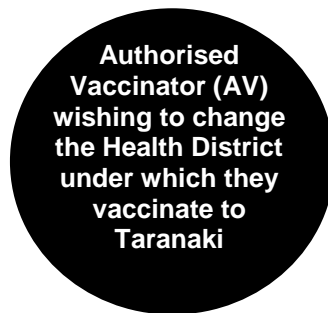


**Authorisation* granted for two years from date of letter of re-authorisation.
Applicant sent re-authorisation within 10 working days of receipt of their application.**

* Please note that authorisation is granted on the assumption that vaccinators will always have a current annual practising certificate and that all authorised vaccinators will work within their scope of practice.

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Taranaki DHB Flow Chart for Authorised Vaccinators (AVs) wishing to change the Health District under which they vaccinate to Taranaki



Written evidence of following requirements are sent to the P.A. for the Medical Officer of Health

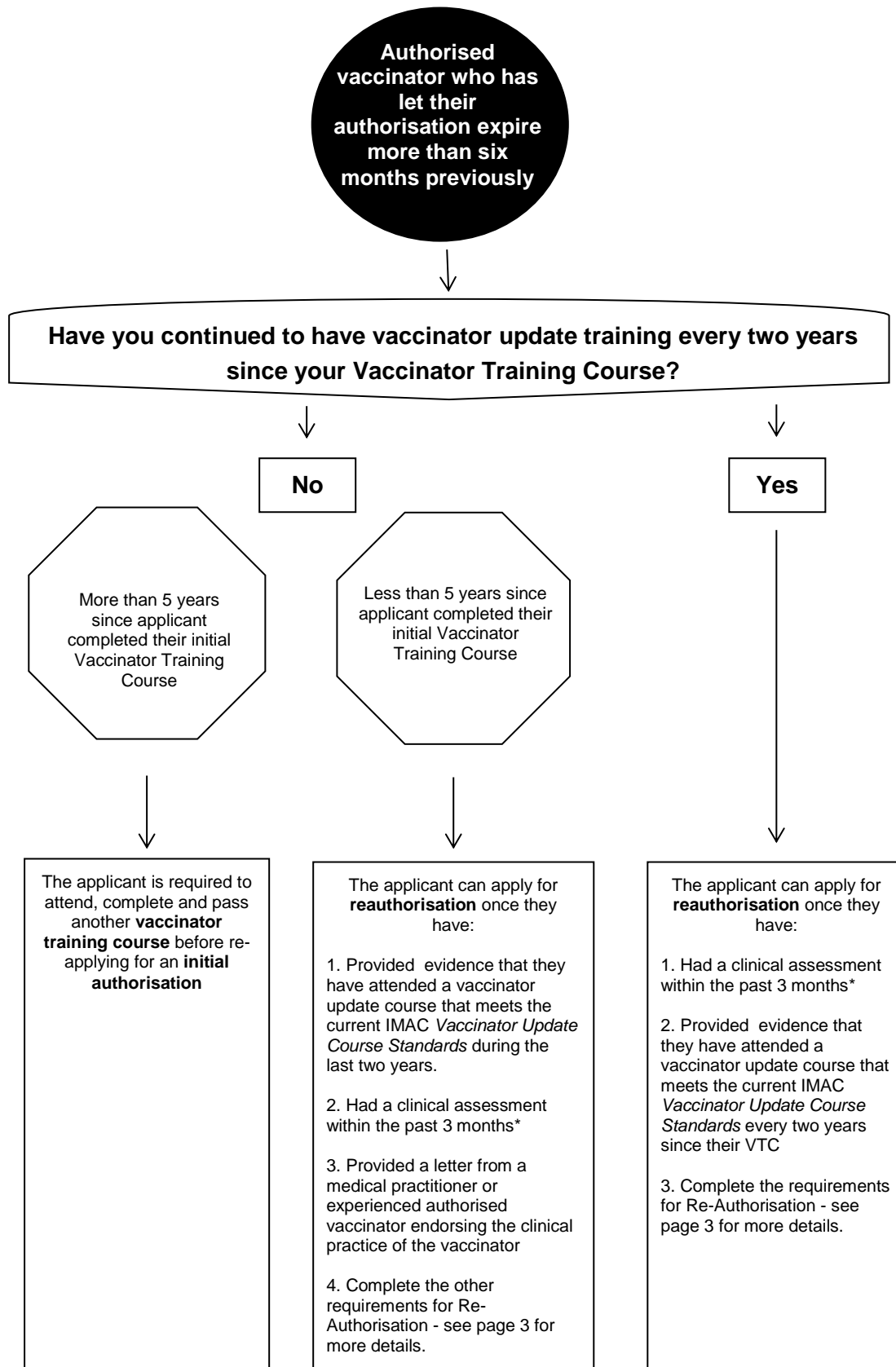


**Authorisation* granted to the date that the current Vaccinator Authorisation expires.
Applicant sent authorisation within 10 working days of receipt of their application.**

* Please note that authorisation is granted on the assumption that vaccinators will always have a current annual practising certificate and that all authorised vaccinators will work within their scope of practice.

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Taranaki DHB Flow Chart when authorisation has not been maintained

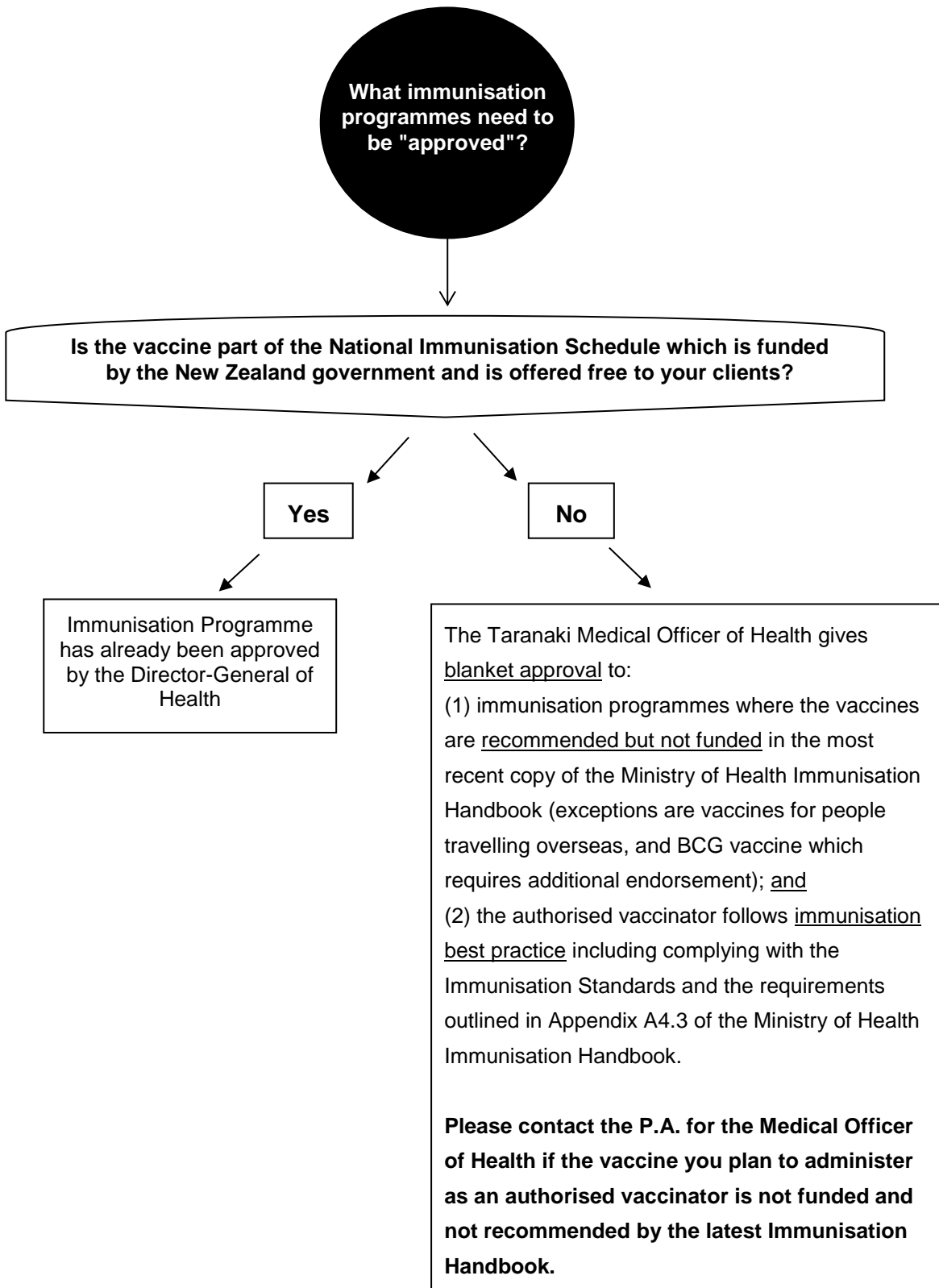


* The clinical assessment can be carried out by the Immunisation Co-ordinator or another assessor approved by the Medical Officer of Health

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Taranaki DHB Flow Chart for Approval of Local Immunisation Programmes

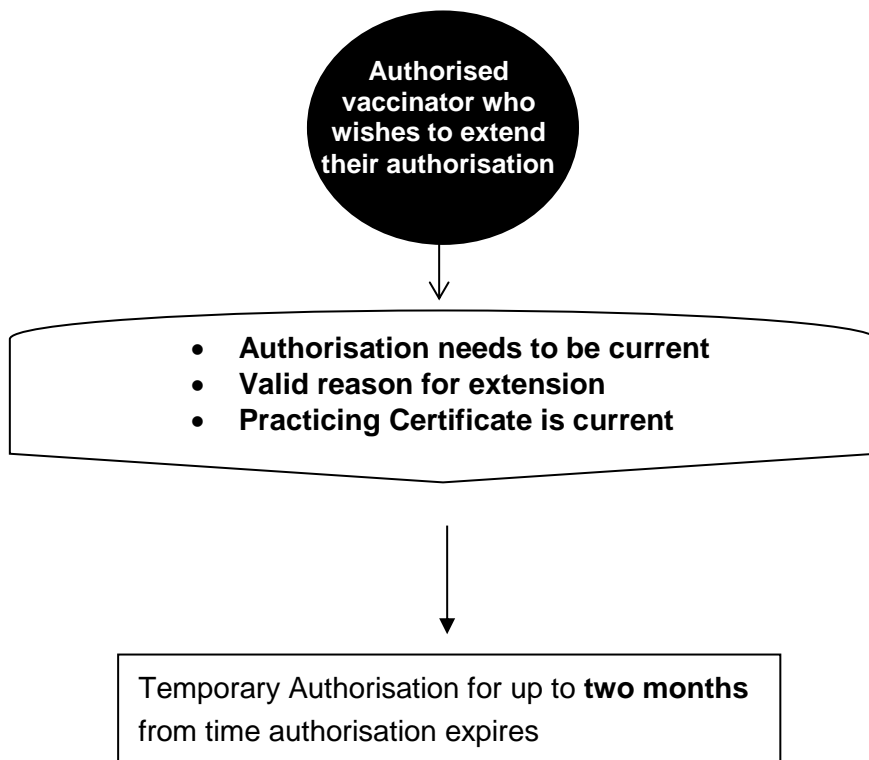
Vaccinators authorised under section 44A of the Medicines Regulations 1984 can only independently administer vaccines "for the purposes of an approved immunisation programme⁴."



⁴ See the Ministry of Health document *Definition of an Approved Immunisation Programme* which is available from www.health.govt.nz/our-work/preventative-health-wellness/immunisation for more information.

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Taranaki DHB Flow Chart for Temporary Authorisation



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**APPLICATION FOR
INITIAL VACCINATOR AUTHORISATION**

To: Dr Jonathan Jarman
Medical Officer of Health
Public Health Unit
Taranaki Base Hospital
Private Bag 2016
NEW PLYMOUTH

Authorisation is being sought by:

Name:.....

Employer:.....

Your Postal address:.....

Phone (Pvt).....(work).....

Please find enclosed photocopies of:

- Course certificate from a vaccinator training course (VTC) attended within the preceding 12 months
- Evidence of clinical assessment by an experienced authorised vaccinator as part of the VTC.
- Current Annual Practising Certificate
- Resuscitation certification equivalent to that set for NZRC 'Health Professional Responder, CORE Immediate – Adult and Child' within the last 2 years.

All of the above are requirements to complete this application

Signed: _____
Applicant

Date: _____

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**APPLICATION FOR
RE-AUTHORISATION AS A VACCINATOR**

To: Dr Jonathan Jarman
Medical Officer of Health
Public Health Unit
Taranaki Base Hospital
Private Bag 2016
NEW PLYMOUTH

Re-authorisation is being sought by:

Name:.....

Employer:.....

Your Postal address:.....

Phone (Pvt).....(work).....

Please find enclosed photocopies of:

- Evidence of attendance at a vaccinator update course that meets the current IMAC *Vaccinator Update Course Standards* completed within the preceding 24 months
- Current Annual Practising Certificate
- Summary of your immunisation practice over the past 12 months which includes the type of practice, types of vaccinations given and other responsibilities related to immunisation.
- Resuscitation certification equivalent to that set for NZRC 'Health Professional Responder, CORE Immediate – Adult and Child' within the last 2 years.

All of the above are requirements to complete this application

Signed: _____
Applicant

Date: _____

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