



**23 March 2009**

## **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Immunisation Programme**

### **Update to Boards of Trustees, Principals and Education Sector Groups on the Ministry of Health's School Support Payment for the school-based HPV immunisation programme**

In November last year we sent you further information about the Ministry of Health's Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Immunisation Programme which aims to reduce the incidence of cervical cancer.

#### **Background**

As you will be aware, the Ministry of Health is working nationally with district health boards (DHBs) to deliver a school-based HPV Immunisation Programme for eligible female students in school years 8 to 13. The programme is operating alongside primary health care providers and other non-school settings.

The Ministry of Education supports the school-based programme and, with the support of education sector groups, is working closely with the Ministry of Health.

Information circulated last year to schools with female students in school years 8 to 13, indicated that the decision regarding whether your school participates in the school-based aspect of the immunisation programme by allowing students to be immunised on school premises, was for your board of trustees to make.

The exact timetable for the school-based HPV immunisation programme will have been agreed between the public health nurse and each participating school.

#### **School Support Payment**

To recognise the role that schools play in the programme, the Ministry of Health will provide a one-off support payment to participating schools. To receive the school support payment, boards or school principals acting on behalf of boards, were required to confirm their school's participation in the HPV immunisation programme to the public health nurse by the first week of March 2009.

The Ministry of Education will assist in the funding transfer to schools, by placing the Ministry of Health funds in participating schools' accounts in April 2009, with the identifier 'HPV Payment'. The funds should be treated as a GST inclusive grant for tax purposes.

The formula for calculating the school support payment has been agreed by the Ministries of Health and Education.

The school support payment will consist of a base payment per school, plus an amount per eligible student based on roll numbers, as set out below:

- A base payment of
  - \$200 per school, or
  - \$300 per school with year 8 classes (as this age group is an ongoing focus of the programme), plus
- a per student payment from a fixed pool of funding of \$2.50 per eligible student i.e. the number of female students in years 8 and above, up to and including young women aged 18 years old and who were born on or after 1 January 1990.

### **More Information**

Copies of advice that the Ministry of Education has provided to schools and education sector groups to date can be downloaded from the Ministry of Education's website. Visit [www.minedu.govt.nz](http://www.minedu.govt.nz) and type 'HPV' into the search engine.

For more information about the Ministry of Health's HPV immunisation programme you can:

- Visit the Ministry of Health's website: [www.moh.govt.nz/immunisation](http://www.moh.govt.nz/immunisation). Parents and students can visit [www.cervicalcancervaccine.govt.nz](http://www.cervicalcancervaccine.govt.nz)
- Email the Ministry of Health: [hpv@moh.govt.nz](mailto:hpv@moh.govt.nz)
- Contact your school's public health nurse or local district health board
- Phone 0800 IMMUNE (0800 466 863).

Michael De'Ath  
Acting Group Manager  
Ministry of Education

Rayoni Keith  
HPV Project Manager  
Ministry of Health