



Pharmacists and Immunisation

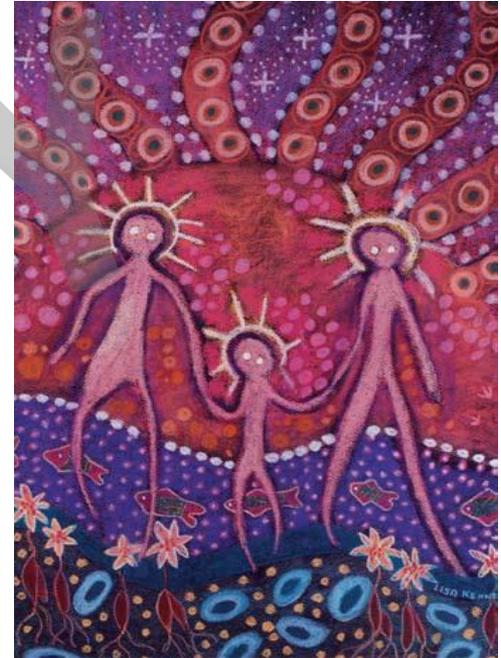
Clinical Vaccinology Update

7th December 2020

Acknowledgement of Country



- I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting today, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and pay my respects to their elders past and present



Outline



- Background of Pharmacist Immunisers
- Requirements to be a Pharmacist Immuniser in Victoria
- Who can pharmacists immunise?
- Review of Victorian program
- Pharmacist Immuniser in the hospital setting
- Future opportunities

Introducing.. Pharmacist Immunisers



- Another opportunity for people to receive vaccinations
- Targeted at improving adolescent and adult immunisation and access in regional and remote areas
- Well established in Canada, New Zealand, the United States and the United Kingdom
- Pilot trial in Queensland to establish role in Australia and has since been welcomed and introduced around the country

Requirements to be a Pharmacist Immuniser in Victoria



- Registered pharmacist
- Complete an 'Immuniser program of study'
- Hold current first aid and CPR certificates
- Vaccines must only be administered in approved and registered locations
- Compliance with the Australian Immunisation Handbook, the National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5, the Victorian Pharmacy Authority's Guidelines and the Victorian Pharmacist-Administered Vaccine Program Guidelines
- Documentation to the Australian Immunisation Register

Who can pharmacists immunise?



- Influenza vaccine for persons aged 10 years and older
- Pertussis-containing vaccine for persons aged 15 years and older
- Measles-mumps-rubella vaccine for persons aged 15 years and older
- Meningococcal ACWY vaccine for people aged 15 years and older
- Exclusion groups –
 - Vaccination for travel purposes
 - Vaccination for diphtheria, tetanus or poliomyelitis
 - Vaccination of contacts of a pertussis case, unless directed by the Department
 - Vaccination of people with contraindications as outlined in the Australian Immunisation Handbook

Victoria



- Since June 2016
 - 1966 Pharmacist Immunisers
 - 650 Pharmacies
 - 206,911 vaccines administered by pharmacists
 - 178,624 flu vaccines
 - 23,751 pertussis-containing vaccines
 - 3,098 MMR vaccines
 - 341 Men ACWY vaccines
 - 1-2% of adverse events reported to SAEFVIC

Pharmacist Immuniser in the hospital setting



- Role of the Immunisation Pharmacist at the Royal Children's Hospital commenced in April 2018
- From October 2018 – September 2020:
 - Administration of 294 vaccines
 - Verification of 1045 vaccines prescribed throughout RCH
 - Dispensing of 207 vaccines
 - Documentation of clinical notes in 221 patients
 - Identification of due or overdue vaccines in admitted patients on 366 occasions
 - Responding to 4262 (24%) phone calls received through the Immunisation Service telephone advice line
 - Ensuring adherence to cold chain and maintaining vaccine supply

Future opportunities



- Public health promotion through more education for pharmacists in both the community and hospital setting
- Evaluation of Pharmacist Immuniser program
- Provision of vaccine in a pandemic!



Acknowledgements



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