

Protecting hapū māmā and pēpi from vaccine-preventable diseases

Participant Information Sheet - Health Care Professionals

Introduction

Thank you for showing an interest in this University of Otago study. Please read this information sheet carefully. Take time to consider and, if you wish, talk with relatives or friends, before deciding whether or not to participate.

If you decide to take part, or if you have any questions, you can contact our research team using the contact details at the end of this information sheet.

If you decide not to take part there will be no disadvantage to you and we thank you for considering our request.

What is the aim of the research project?

Influenza infection in pregnancy can cause serious problems, increasing the likelihood of hospitalisation, pre-term birth, and miscarriage. Influenza or pertussis infection in young babies can also have serious consequences. Pertussis infection in infants can result in brain damage and may be fatal. Vaccination against pertussis and influenza is safe and effective. It protects pregnant women and their babies (in the first few months of life) from severe disease. However, less than half of all pregnant women are vaccinated against influenza and pertussis in Aotearoa. Furthermore, coverage of maternal vaccination is inequitable with coverage of Māori and Pacific women being much lower than other ethnicities, increasing the risk of them and their babies developing severe disease.

We want to find ways to increase the coverage of maternal vaccination in Māori and Pacific women. We have undertaken a literature review of tools and resources implemented in practice in Aotearoa and internationally that have improved maternal coverage rates. We are gathering information from key stakeholders in maternal immunisation in primary care to see what they think of these tools and resources and whether they would work in their community.

The aim of the project is to develop culturally appropriate tools and resources to improve maternal vaccination rates for pregnant women through engagement with key stakeholders at a locality level.

Who is funding this project?

This project is funded by the New Zealand Health Research Council.

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Who are we seeking to participate in the project?

We are seeking the opinions of key stakeholders involved with maternal care in Aotearoa. To participate, participants must meet the following criteria:

- Be current GPs, practice nurses, midwives, pharmacists, immunisation coordinators, kaiawhina, or employees at Iwi-Māori Partnership Boards, or at Māori or Pacific Health Providers.
- Be able to speak and understand English.

Individuals who are retired from practice or who cannot speak or understand English will not be able to participate.

If you participate, what will you be asked to do?

If you agree to take part in this project, you will be asked to be interviewed, either face-to-face, or over zoom. The interview will start with us talking to you about the findings from the literature review, i.e. the different tools and resources that have been shown to increase the number of pregnant women being vaccinated. After this we will ask your opinions about the tools and resources and their applicability to the Aotearoa health system. We expect these interviews to last approximately one hour.

Please be aware that you may decide not to take part in the project without any disadvantage to yourself.

As a thank you for participating, you will be given a \$50 supermarket voucher.

What data or information will be collected and how will they be used?

This study involves an open-questioning technique. The general line of questioning includes what you think about the tools and resources and whether you think they would work in Aotearoa, how they could be improved, and what might stop them from working very well in community practice.

The exact questions haven't been made up in advance, but will depend on the way in which the interview develops. Because of this, although the University of Otago ethics committee is aware of the general areas we are looking at in the interview, they haven't been able to review the exact questions to be asked.

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If you start to feel unsure or uncomfortable during the interview you can choose not to answer the question or continue with the interview.

The interview will be recorded, and then transcribed using a transcription service called 'Turboscribe'. Turboscribe is fully encrypted and the transcribed data is not shared or used by Turboscribe to improve their product. Transcribed files will be deleted from our Turboscribe account after they have been uploaded to secure online storage at the University of Otago; this will be done immediately after the transcribed file has been downloaded from Turboscribe.

The results of this study may be published in an academic journal and presented at a conference. You will not be named in any of these. You are most welcome to request a copy of the results of the study. If you want these, your name and contact details will be kept on a separate list, and not linked to what you have told us in the interview.

What about anonymity and confidentiality?

The audio recording and written transcripts will be stored on a password protected computer. It will be securely stored in such a way that only the members of the research team will be able to gain access to it. This data will be kept for at least 10 years. Any personal information held about you (such as name and contact details) will be kept separate from the audio recording and transcript so you cannot be identified and may be destroyed at the end of the study.

We will ask you to fill in a demographic questionnaire, but this will be anonymous by separating it from the audio recordings and transcripts, and from your name and contact details. No material that could personally identify you will be used in any reports on this study. Results of this research may be published.

If you agree to participate, can you withdraw later?

You can stop taking part in the project at any time before or during the interview. It won't be possible to withdraw after the interview as the anonymous information will already be included in the study data.

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If you have any questions, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact either:



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*This study has been approved by the University of Otago Human Ethics Committee (Health).
If you have any concerns about the ethical conduct of the research you may contact the
Committee through the Human Ethics Committee Administrator (phone +64 3 479 8256 or
email gary.witte@otago.ac.nz). Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and
investigated and you will be informed of the outcome.*