

本署檔號 Our Ref.: (14) in DH SEB CD/8/37/1

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

電 話 TEL.:

傳 真 FAX No.:

24 September 2007

Dear Doctor,

Update on Mumps Vaccination

We would like to draw your attention to the updated recommendation by the World Health Organization (WHO) on mumps vaccination, which requires a 2-dose regimen for presumed immunity against mumps infection.

The above update has been derived from accumulated global experience based on outbreak-based studies which suggested that the long-term population-based effectiveness of one dose of mumps vaccine may be lower (between 60-90%) as compared with a two-dose regimen. The WHO now recommends that **2 doses of mumps vaccination after one year old** (at least 4 weeks apart) are needed for adequate protection. (Full position paper available online at <http://www.who.int/wer/2007/wer8207.pdf>)

The Department of Health (DH) has been providing a universal childhood immunisation programme for all children in Hong Kong. This included measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination, which is normally given at one-year-old and in primary one. Any child who has missed any one of the two doses will be given an opportunity to complete the vaccination either in primary one or primary six during school immunisation campaigns. Therefore, most locally born children should be unaffected by the change because a majority of them should have received two doses of mumps-containing vaccine. However, some overseas health authorities may not be using the MMR vaccine while monovalent vaccines targeting at any of the three diseases may be administered. Therefore, children who received vaccination outside Hong Kong may have received less than 2 doses of mumps-containing vaccine and catch up vaccination may be necessary. Parents of children who had received immunisation outside Hong Kong are



advised to check the immunisation records of their children to confirm if they have received 2 doses of MMR or other forms of mumps vaccine.

The Department of Health will convey the message to her clients in the primary and secondary schools. If you come across children who do not have up-to-date mumps immunisation or history of mumps infection, please give advice on further vaccination protection or refer them to our hotline at 2615 8575.

Further information on mumps is also available at the website of the Centre for Health Protection (<http://www.chp.gov.hk>).

Thank you very much for your attention.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr SK CHUANG)
Consultant Community Medicine (Communicable Disease)
Centre for Health Protection