

22 September 2021

The Ministry of Health have updated guidance regarding School Based Imms and the concomitant administration of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine with other vaccines. As we have been inquiring about this over the last couple of weeks, particularly in regard to the HPV vaccine, so we thank them for your patience.

The school-based immunisation programmes and the COVID-19 vaccine immunisation programme want to offer everyone 12years and over the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine and their national immunisation schedule vaccines.

The Ministry of Health is working on the policy to guide the concomitant use of the COVID-19 vaccine with other vaccines with the release planned for late next week. We are giving you this earlier notification to ensure that you are able to continue with your plans for the HPV and other vaccination programmes in the meantime.

- There are no concerns around the timing of other vaccines, you do not need to delay any of these vaccinations.
- The recommended six-week gap between COVID-19 vaccines still applies.
- Clinical advice still requires a gap of at least seven days between having the COVID-19 vaccine and the Zostavax (shingles) vaccine.

Information will be available later in the week with more detail.

Thank you,
Public Health Nursing Screening Services