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|  | Manchester Alliance  for Community Care | |
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| Immunisation / Vaccination  A Briefing  August 2010 | |
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**1. About this briefing**

This briefing is aimed at practitioners and managers within the voluntary and community sector who want to know more about work which is taking place in Manchester to increase immunisations and vaccinations and to start thinking through how their organisation may be well placed to contribute to reducing this issue.

It provides an overview of immunisation/vaccinations in Manchester; how Manchester NHS and statutory partners are tackling the issue at a strategic level; the types of services voluntary and community sector organisations are well placed to deliver, useful resources and links to further information.

For more information about this briefing and the voluntary and community sector [Health and Well-being Network](http://www.macc.org.uk/macc/wellbeing_intro.php) please contact:

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**2. Overview**

Infectious diseases still remain a global threat to health, as the swine flu pandemic has shown. Vaccination against such diseases has, and will continue to have, a historical place, on a par with the provision of clean water and improved sanitation, as one of our society’s most important tools in the continuing battle for better public health.

Vaccination is a major factor in reducing health inequalities. Without vaccination, epidemics of largely forgotten diseases, such as measles, diphtheria and whooping cough, would impact most on our most deprived communities and further worsen current health inequalities.

Despite the success of Manchester’s vaccination programme, vaccine-preventable diseases, such as whooping cough and TB, do remain prevalent, if at low levels compared to the historical picture. These diseases are ready to become resurgent should our guard

on vaccination fail, as the recent measles outbreaks in Manchester and elsewhere

show. We need to maintain the highest possible uptake of routine childhood

vaccinations to ensure community immunity.

Some improvements in Manchester’s immunisation coverage levels have been made. These improvements reflect the work undertaken by additional staff employed by the

Community Infection Control Team, as part of MMR catch-up campaign.

**3. Manchester’s strategic approach**

Strategic Plan for Improving the Vaccination Coverage of Young Children to National Target Levels in Manchester was written in May 2010. The key objectives of this strategic plan are to:

1. Increase vaccination uptake and reach the national vaccination targets
2. Improve current service provision in GP practices and other provider settings
3. Improve communication between staff involved in vaccination
4. Ensure data accuracy by improving data collection, data checking and communication between information systems
5. Ensure all staff are appropriately trained and that training and information on vaccination is available for those groups who require it
6. Promote the importance of vaccination and provide appropriate information on vaccination for the population of Manchester
7. Improve immunisation services for specific groups who are at risk of not being fully immunised, by adopting a multi-faceted approach to service provision
8. Review and develop the mechanism for delivering the different elements of the national vaccination programme locally

**4. How can VCS organisations contribute to increasing immunisations/vaccinations?**

Local voluntary and community sector organisations are able to reach communities that often do not find statutory services accessible. They are therefore well placed to provide the following services to groups who are particularly at risk of not being immunised:

* Training to frontline workers
* Information and education on vaccinations

**5. Opportunities for the voluntary and community sector**

North Manchester Zest and South Manchester Healthy Living Network involve local people and voluntary and community sector organisations to improve health and well-being in their local area.

**6. Specialist local voluntary and community sector organisations**

[TB Alert](http://www.tbalert.org)

For information about organisations delivering work around vaccinations/immunisations go to [www.onecentralplace.org.uk](http://www.onecentralplace.org.uk) – an online directory of voluntary and community sector organisations in Manchester.

**7. Useful Documents**

[Strategic Plan for Improving the Vaccination Coverage of Young Children to National Target Levels in Manchester (NHS Manchester, May 2010)](http://www.manchester.nhs.uk/document_uploads/Board%202%20June%202010/Bimms%20strategic%20plan%20May%202010_936e1.doc)

[Manchester Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), 2008](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?downloadID=2829&fileID=8459)

[Improving Health in Manchester: NHS Commissioning Strategic Plan 2009-2014](http://www.manchester.nhs.uk/document_uploads/Commissioning/NHS%20Manchester%20Commissioning%20Plan%20111108_7bcd6.pdf)

[Manchester Public Health Annual Report](http://www.manchester.nhs.uk/document_uploads/Board%207%20April%202010/Manchester%20Public%20Health%20Annual%20Report%202009%20(2).pdf)

[A Picture of Progress: Compendium of Statistics for Manchester](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/downloads/file/11460/a_picture_of_progress_compendium_compendium_of_statistics_for_manchester)

**8. Useful Links**

[Manchester Alliance for Community Care](http://www.macc.org.uk/macc/food.php)

[NHS Manchester website](http://www.manchester.nhs.uk/default.aspx?)

[Manchester Public Health Development Service](http://www.manchesterpublichealthdevelopment.org/)

[NHS guide to vaccinations for you and your family](http://www.nhs.uk/Planners/vaccinations/Pages/aboutvaccinationhub.aspx)

[Young Healthy Manchester – Immunisations for baby/child](http://www.younghealthymanchester.nhs.uk/yhm/infantsandtoddlers/immunisations.html)

[Young Healthy Manchester – Immunisations for 12-18 year olds](http://www.younghealthymanchester.nhs.uk/yhm/yp/immunisations.html)

[National NHS website](http://www.immunisation.nhs.uk/Vaccines/HPV)   
[Need to Know website](http://www.need2know.co.uk/need2know/health/health_services/article.html/id=1484)

**7. For more information**

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