



COVID-19 vaccination: expression of interest

19 March 2021

We are seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from primary care to deliver COVID-19 vaccination as part of stage three and four of the sequencing roll out (see attached COVID-19 vaccine rollout plan). We ask that you consult with your whole general practice/pharmacy team before submitting an expression of interest.

We are exploring an opt-in vaccination model that pulls on the expertise in primary care where interested and available. This will sit alongside a central mass vaccination model and outreach service to also deliver COVID-19 vaccination, i.e.; there is not an expectation that primary care can 'absorb' all of the vaccination work.

The delivery model we are looking at would provide 'designated clinics' – either stand alone general practices/pharmacies or in a collective (e.g.; a group of practices and/or pharmacies). This could then provide geographical spread to support the central mass vaccination sites.

We are aware that you will have a lot of questions around this proposal. We are planning to run a webinar/Zoom meeting on **Wednesday 24 March (7.00 - 8.00pm)**. Registration link: https://mobilehealth.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yagOAulwRYm1OnPGEeYhsw) with the opportunity to explore this further. In the interim, here are a couple of the key points we think you may ask:

1. What funding will be available?

At present, the Ministry of Health have not confirmed the funding levels for this: we understand this makes it difficult for you to evaluate this proposal. We expect this to be available imminently and funding levels will reflect the work that is involved in delivering this vaccine.

2. What is the time commitment for this?

You will need to commit to a three-month contract and be able to deliver a minimum of 360 vaccinations per week. This volume is due to the logistics of vaccine distribution and we would support working up to this number, whilst your team establishes the clinic. We would like to see an accessible model, with consideration of evening and weekend clinics.

3. What staff will I need to provide for this service?



Current vaccination teams are able to vaccinate between 10-12 patients an hour. In primary care this could be achieved with one administrator, one nurse performing vaccine draw up/recovery supervision, one nurse vaccinating.

4. When and how will primary care receive their own vaccines?

The aim is to start delivering COVID-19 vaccination to stage 2a (which includes general practice and pharmacy staff) in the first two weeks of April 2021. We are finalizing arrangements (including locations and staffing) around this. Some of this work could be undertaken by designated practices if they were able to be ready in time.

The most recent COVID-19 Vaccine Immunisation Programme: Operating Guidelines for DHBs & Providers are attached for your information. These are designed to support large vaccination clinics and are presented here as a guide around the steps involved, rather than our envisaged model in primary care. We are aware that primary care are very experienced at creating efficient vaccine experiences and will do so with the COVID-19 vaccination.

If your business is not interested at this stage, there may be opportunities that arise in the future, and non-interest at this point will not preclude you from those.

If you are not planning to become involved at this stage, but you have staff members who are interested in becoming part of the casual vaccination workforce, please send through their details. This includes vaccinators/potential provisional vaccinators and administrators.

If there are any barriers in this proposal, we are interested in understanding what these are to see if we can work to remove these.

Please submit your Expression of Interest to CPRG (eoc@cprg.org.nz) by **4.00pm Friday 26th March**. Your EOI should cover the following key information:

Name of practice, pharmacy or collective

Representative contact details (name, phone number and email address)

Confirmation of proposed vaccinations delivered each week - you must deliver a minimum of 360 COVID-19 vaccinations each week however this number can be higher.

Proposed vaccination operating hours – e.g.; number of days, evenings, weekends. Can be adjusted.

A commitment to a three month contract with options to extend up to six months.

List of all authorized vaccinators, including names and email addresses (ideally an organisational email, i.e.; not Gmail.)

A nominated site/operations lead – this person will also be expected to attend a leads' Zoom catch up once or twice a week.

A nominated cold chain lead

A nominated administration lead - to report on deliverables (e.g.; doses delivered, vaccine stock on hand).



Other requirements;

- Equity focus – ability to access translation services where required. Support accessible and culturally-sensitive vaccine experience.
- Ability and willingness to work flexibly and responsibly in a rapidly changing space.
- Willingness to vaccinate non-registered patients.
- Approved vaccination fridge and secure site.
- Site adequate to safely manage a volume of vaccination patients, including 20-minute post-vaccine wait.
- Ability to 'use up' excess doses (e.g.; if spare doses from a vial, vaccine due to expire) at very short notice.