

Prioritising Equity in HPV Vaccination Programs: An Innovative Approach

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NZ Maori- Indigenous people of NZ



2006 Census

More than one in seven people (14.6%) usually living in New Zealand in 2006 belonged to the Māori ethnic group.

The Familiar Picture

- Indigenous peoples have an increased burden of disease and mortality from cervical cancer.
- In New Zealand Māori have twice the incidence and four times the death rate from cervical cancer than non- Māori.
- Māori have marked disparities in access to screening programmes compared to non-Māori.
- Pakeha (Caucasian) have half the incidence and one quarter of the death rate from cervical cancer

Prioritisation of Indigenous Peoples

- If implementation does not consider the rights of indigenous people to have equal if not better health outcomes then disparities will increase.
- Therefore indigenous peoples should be recognised as a priority group for the HPV vaccine programme.

MEAG- an equity tool

- A Māori Equity Advisory Group (MEAG) was established by the Deputy Director-General Māori Health (Teresa Wall)
- To provide advice on Māori equity to the project team responsible for planning and implementing the HPV Programme in New Zealand.

Maori Equity Advisory Group

- Pania Ellison (sexual and reproductive health)
- Nina Scott (Public Health)
- Belinda Loring (Public Health)
- Damiane Rikihana (Communications)
- Beverley Lawton (women's health, sexual health)

MEAG

- MEAG worked alongside the HPV project team to inform the policy and programme development.
- MEAG operated within the understanding that the existence of inequalities between Māori and non-Māori in immunization coverage or cancer rates is unnecessary, unjust, avoidable, and should not be present.

Government Decision to Implement HPV Programme



Governance Group



Project Team (NISO, consent, media, finances)



MEAG

District Health Boards (DHB)

Project Implementation Plans(PIPS)



Immunisation



Evaluation Monitoring

Results



The MEAG advice influenced high level strategy documents including the National Implementation Strategic Overview (NISO) and gave considerable input to the operational component of the programme. Relatively high levels of vaccination were achieved for Māori.

Girls born in 1997

% immunisation coverage at Dec 2010

Cohort	Ethnicity	Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3
	Target	65%	60%	55%
1997	Māori	64	61	56
1997	Pacific	76	75	70
1997	Other	43	42	40

Barriers identified by MEAG

- There was no MEAG input into financial considerations as a driver of equity
- Māori leaders, communications and service providers were not engaged early in the process of planning and implementation
- Resistance to prioritisation of a minority group
- Clear accountability processes required between MEAG and vaccination team



Vaccine rate for girls born in 1997 (By December 2010)

- High uptake in young Māori and Pacific women
- Achieved target for young Māori women
- Exceeded target for young Pacific women
- Variation in uptake across DHBs



Conclusion

- Prioritising an indigenous population potentially leads to increased vaccination levels of that priority group.
- The MEAG marks an innovative attempt to formalise and enhance the means for incorporating equity for Māori into key national health programmes.

Issues

- Involvement of our Māori leaders, communities and service providers at the beginning of programme planning
- Use of Equity Advice from initial planning phase of any new programme- including the decision
- Exploration of financial facilitators of equity
- Reverse equity

Kia ora

Thank you



Prioritising Indigenous Peoples for HPV Vaccination

- What are you doing in your countries ?
- What are the Positives / Facilitators ?
- What are the Barriers ?
- What would you do, that would be different, if you had a choice ?

Government Decision to Implement HPV Programme

Local or National



Governance Group



Project Team



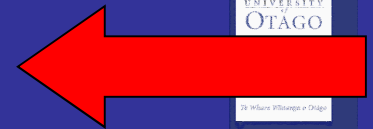
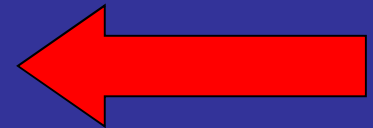
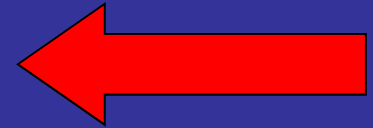
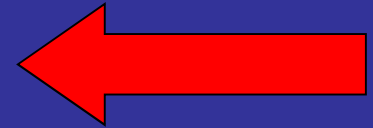
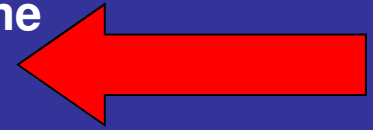
District Health Boards (DHB)



Immunisation



Evaluation Monitoring



Goal : to prioritise HPV immunisation amongst Indigenous peoples globally

- What are the next steps ?
- How do we get on centre stage ?

Goal : to prioritise HPV immunisation amongst Indigenous peoples globally

- Develop an Indigenous HPV prioritisation workgroup
- This initial discussion will serve as a launch pad for multi-country, multijurisdictional emphases on HPV immunisations among Indigenous populations