

7 December 2016

Dear Healthcare Professional,

**Supply of Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccine  
(November update)**

As you are well aware, supply of Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccine has been extremely constrained in 2016. We are now at a point where there has been no vaccine available in NZ for a number of months.

**Future Supplies**

Unfortunately, a resupply date for BCG vaccine cannot be confirmed at this time. Seqirus has been unsuccessful in securing any alternative supplies of BCG vaccine for NZ before the end of 2016.

On a brighter note, we are pleased to report that the manufacturer of BCG vaccine, Statens Serum Institut of Denmark, is gearing up to restart production in early 2017. We expect to have freshly manufactured vaccine available before the end of September 2017. We are continuing to work with the Ministry of Health, PHARMAC and Medsafe and will keep you updated as we make progress. Consequently, we will be writing to you again no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2017 to provide you with an expected availability date.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused by the ongoing lack of supply of BCG vaccine. We would like to take this opportunity to thank both the medical officers of health and the DHB BCG services in anticipation of their continued patience.

For up to date Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccine prescribing information, please refer to the Data Sheet available at:

<http://www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/datasheet/b/BCGCSLinj.pdf>

Yours sincerely



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