

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (2) in DH PMPD/1-150/8/2

August 1, 2008

Dear Doctor,

Invitation to join
Influenza Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (IVSS)

We write to invite private medical doctors in Hong Kong to join the Influenza Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (IVSS) to better protect children in our community against influenza, as per the latest recommendation by the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (<http://www.chp.gov.hk/sas6.asp?lang=en&id=106&pid=110&ppid=101>). Doctors' enrolment with IVSS will begin on September 30, 2008.

To promote influenza vaccination among young children before the coming winter influenza season, the Department of Health is introducing a new Influenza Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (IVSS) in 2008-09. Starting November 1, 2008, eligible children between the age of 6 months and less than 6 years are entitled to an \$80 Government subsidy per dose of influenza vaccine they receive from private medical doctors who enrolled with the scheme. Private medical doctors enrolled with IVSS will receive reimbursements from Government at \$80 per vaccine dose given to eligible children. Private medical doctors can determine their fee levels for influenza vaccination service. Enrolled doctors are requested to display their fee levels in their clinics.

IVSS is expected to bring more children to receive influenza vaccination from private medical doctors. The number of children between the age of 6 months and less than 6 years in Hong Kong approximates 300,000. Two doses of influenza vaccines are required for a child if he/she has not been vaccinated against influenza before.



If you are a private medical doctor interested in joining IVSS, **we strongly encourage you to place vaccine purchase orders early with your vaccine supplier (e.g. before mid-August)**, because vaccine supplies are less reliable with late orders.

Enrolment with IVSS will begin on September 30, 2008 via a designated website administered by the Department of Health. You may refer to a *Doctors' Guide on IVSS* at the CHP website (http://www.chp.gov.hk/view_content.asp?lang=en&info_id=13397) for details of the Scheme and updates on enrolment procedures to be uploaded in due course. A condensed flowchart is attached with this letter (Annex A).

Besides, the Department of Health will organise briefing sessions for private medical doctors in September 2008 to introduce IVSS enrolment and administrative procedures. Details of the briefing sessions are as follows:

Session One

Date: 8 September 2008 (Monday)
Time: 2 pm – 3 pm
Venue: Lecture Theatre, LG1, Ruttonjee Hospital,
266 Queen's Road East,
Wanchai, Hong Kong
Capacity: about 160 seats

Session Two

Date: 11 September 2008 (Thursday)
Time: 2 pm – 3 pm
Venue: Lecture Theatre, M/F, Hospital Authority Building,
147B Argyle Street,
Kowloon
Capacity: about 330 seats

You are cordially invited to join either of the briefing sessions which will have identical programme rundowns. For reservation of seats, please complete the reply slip **at Annex B** and return it to the IVSS Office by fax. For enquiries, please call the IVSS Office at 2125 2125.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr Thomas TSANG)

Controller, Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health

Flow chart of key stages in joining IVSS

Pre-enrolment period
(Before 30 September 2008)

Receive invitation letter from DH
Read *Doctors' Guide to IVSS*
at www.chp.gov.hk

Participate
in IVSS?

Yes

**Place early orders for
influenza vaccines**

Enrolment period
(30 September 2008 to
31 March 2009)

Follow enrolment instructions
on CHP website

Receive confirmation of enrolment from DH
Display IVSS logo and mini-poster at the clinic
for clients' reference

Vaccination period
(1 November 2008 to
31 March 2009)

Deliver influenza vaccination to
eligible children
Follow procedures shown in
Doctors' Guide to IVSS

Reimbursement

Claim for reimbursements from DH
according to procedures set out in
Doctors' Guide to IVSS

Annex B

**Briefing Sessions on
Influenza Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (IVSS)
Reply Slip**

***Please return the completed reply slip to the IVSS Office
(Fax. No.: 2713 9576) before 1 September 2008***

To: IVSS Office
Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health

Please reserve one seat for me in the briefing session on Influenza Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (IVSS).

(Please put a “ ✓ ” inside one of the boxes or indicate the order of preference by marking “1” and “2” inside the boxes)

<input type="checkbox"/> Session One Date: 8 September 2008 (Monday) Time: 2 pm – 3 pm Venue: Lecture Theatre, LG1, Ruttonjee Hospital, 266 Queen’s Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong Capacity: about 160 seats	<input type="checkbox"/> Session Two Date: 11 September 2008 (Thursday) Time: 2 pm – 3 pm Venue: Lecture Theatre, M/F, Hospital Authority Building, 147B Argyle Street, Kowloon Capacity: about 330 seats
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Doctor’s Name: _____

Contact Tel. No.: _____ (office)

_____ (mobile phone)

Email address: _____