



Queensland Health

Enquiries to: Scott Brown
Director, Immunisation Unit
Communicable Diseases
Branch
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File Ref:

Dr Nick Yim
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Australian Medical Association Queensland
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Dear Dr Yim

On Friday 5 July 2024, the Queensland Health Immunisation Program (QHIP) issued communication to all Vaccination Service Providers (VSPs) requesting the practice of transferring of National Immunisation Program (NIP) and state-funded vaccines between VSPs to cease until further notice.

The transfer of government funded vaccines between VSPs (i.e. from one GP clinic to another) is typically done to reduce vaccine wastage, meet consumer demand and mitigate disruption to immunisation services.

It has recently been identified that under the Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021, the transfer of vaccines and immunisation products (schedule 4 medicines) between VSPs, is only permitted under limited and restricted conditions.

Under Queensland legislation, pharmacists are authorised to initiate the transfer of vaccines and immunisation products under limited circumstances. The legislation also allows for the transfer of vaccines and immunisation products for some VSPs under certain emergency situations. A decision support tool has been added to our [webpage](#) to assist providers in identifying whether they are authorised to transfer vaccines.

All VSPs should contact the Immunisation Unit for advice on their specific circumstances before transferring any vaccines where the decision support tool indicated they are not authorised.

The Department is working on a legislative solution to enable the transfer of vaccines by all provider types and will update you as this work progresses. I seek your support in communicating this change to your membership.

If you or your membership require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact Mr Scott Brown, Director, Immunisation Unit, Department of Health, on telephone 0438 826 213 or via email at immunisation@health.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Dr Heidi Carroll
Executive Director, Communicable Diseases Branch
Queensland Public Health and Scientific Services
Queensland Health
15 / 8 / 2024

Copy to Dr Brett Dale, Chief Executive Officer (amaq@amaq.com.au)