



Department of Health and Human Services

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Dear Colleagues

Re: Mapping the delivery of interventions for vaccine preventable infections in pregnancy – evaluation survey

I am writing to ask you to take part in an important survey which aims to capture critical information on the prenatal and postnatal care at your health service.

The Health Protection Branch of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is currently evaluating the various service delivery models in place across Victorian health services for interventions which are aimed at reducing vaccine preventable infections (pertussis, influenza and hepatitis B) in pregnancy.

The evaluation is intended to:

- Map services provided to women for the delivery of pertussis and influenza immunisations as well as interventions to prevent mother to child transmission (MTCT) of hepatitis B *and*
- Understand the different models of care used to deliver prenatal and postnatal services for pregnant women across Victoria.

Results of this evaluation will provide valuable insights into potential opportunities for system-based improvements for service delivery provided to pregnant women across Victorian health services.

The department has engaged the WHO Collaborating Centre for Viral Hepatitis at The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity (Doherty Institute) to undertake this evaluation, which will be undertaken in several phases.

The service mapping activity will be undertaken through two surveys:

1. A survey to **maternity unit managers** in birthing hospitals to understand how individual health services deliver care for influenza and pertussis as well as interventions to prevent MTCT of hepatitis B.
2. A survey to **health providers** involved in the antenatal and postnatal care of pregnant women and their infants (e.g. MCHN, GPs etc) to assess individual perceptions and knowledge of the delivery of interventions for vaccine preventable infections.

I ask for your cooperation in completing one of the following surveys:

For unit managers at birthing hospitals, please complete Survey 1 by **clicking here**.

For healthcare providers delivering antenatal and/or postnatal care of pregnant women and their infants (e.g. MCHN, GPs etc), please complete Survey 2 by **clicking here**.

The results of these surveys will be presented in a report to the Health Protection Branch and will be made available to participating health services. Expected outcomes will include recommendations for best practice to inform public policy and identify areas for system improvements for the delivery of interventions to prevent the transmission of influenza, pertussis and hepatitis B during pregnancy in Victoria.

I recognise it has been an incredibly difficult and stressful year and your time is valuable. I appreciate and thank you for your participation in the survey and for helping to improve service delivery for pregnant women and their infants in our state.

If you have any further questions, please contact Nafisa Yussf by phone: 0402 369 183 or by email: nafisa.yussf@mh.org.au.

Yours sincerely,



Brett Sutton
Chief Health Officer
Regulation Health Protection and Emergency Management Division

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