

# Changes in Immunisation Funding – Update on Implementation

PHO Services Agreement – February 2026

Health New Zealand  
Te Whatu Ora

As you will be aware, we made several changes to immunisation funding within the PHOSA as part of the 1 July 25 annual uplift contract variation. While more substantive PMS system changes are yet to be made, Health NZ will ensure you receive your full entitlements.

## Summary of changes agreed from 1 July 2025

These included:

- Increasing the standard immunisation rate to \$46.00 (GST exclusive).
- Increasing the Influenza rate to \$37.50 (GST exclusive).
- The introduction of a standard co-administration fee of \$20.52 (GST exclusive) whenever more than one immunisation is delivered.
- Incorporation of COVID administration into the PHO services agreement.

## Implementation of the Co-Administration fee & COVID administration Fee

Due to the need for more substantive system changes, the implementation of the standard co-administration fee and COVID administration fee has taken more time to implement than previously anticipated. **Following consultation with PMS vendors, we are aiming for the full implementation for the co-administration fee and COVID administration fee into claiming systems by 1 July 2026.**

## Back payments for Co-Administration Fees

Until the required changes are made to both Health NZ payment systems and your PMS system, **please continue to claim for any immunisations given in the same way that you did prior to 1 July 2025.**

Health NZ recognises your entitlement to any co-administration fees where more than one immunisation has been delivered from 1 July 2025 and **we are calculating backdated entitlements from your claim information and will pay the full amount owed from 1 July 2025 under the new rules.**

The first back payment for any co-administration fees for immunisations delivered in Quarter One (July – September 2025) is being paid now.

- The payments are being made to the same payee as received the original payment – this can either be a PHO, Practice or a Doctor.
- The invoice numbers for the payment are the original payment invoice number with the transaction number extension to make them unique from the original payment.
- The remittance advice that is generated with the payments will list each back payment for that invoice, providing claim date and NHI number for each.

- The payment period on the invoice is the calendar quarter the back payment relates to – e.g. the current back payments going out have a period start date of 1 July 2025 and end date 30 September 2025

**We will process back payments for Quarter 2 (October – December 2025) by the end of February 2026.**

Ongoing back payments will be made for Quarter 3 (January – March 2026) in April 2026, and the final back payment for Quarter 4 (April – June 2026) will be made in July 2026.

## COVID administration

Whilst COVID administration is featured in the 1 July 25 variation to the PHO Services Agreement System, this clause has not yet been activated within the contract. **We intend to active this clause from 1 July 2026.** We have extended the current standalone COVID administration contracts to 30 June 2026 to allow time for these changes.

**The claiming process for COVID administration is triggered by the provider registering the immunisation in the Aotearoa Immunisation Register (AIR). There is no intent to change this process and so no changes to existing processes will be required from 1 July 2026.**

## Back payments for COVID administration

The rate in the existing COVID contracts is lower than the negotiated rate for inclusion in the PHOSA. Back payments will be made to existing COVID providers to reimburse providers at the new rate applicable from 1 July 2025.

Note: Co-administration fees for COVID immunisations will not apply until 1 July 2026.

We are currently working on the back payments for COVID administration and will notify PHOs when these are ready to be paid.

## Providing COVID vaccinations under the PHO Services agreement from 1 July 2026

Whilst COVID administration will be available to all general practices under the PHO services agreement from 1 July 2026, all vaccinators will need to complete the required onboarding processes and training prior to delivering these immunisations.

**If you don't currently offer COVID vaccinations, please see the attached flyer.** With streamlined onboarding and no minimum order requirements, it's easier than ever to start offering COVID vaccines as part of winter preparedness for patients and communities.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact us at [primary.care@tewhatauora.govt.nz](mailto:primary.care@tewhatauora.govt.nz)