

# Mumps – MMR Eligibility



## Preventing mumps

- We are experiencing an outbreak of mumps, which is a result of outbreaks in Auckland and parts of the Pacific.
- Mumps is a highly infectious viral disease that **can be prevented** with the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. Antibiotics will not treat mumps.
- **Any person who has not previously had two documented doses of MMR is eligible for two free doses.** The MMR vaccine is funded for anyone regardless of immigration status (to get funding GPs can enter the vaccination on Medtech as 1st dose MMR 15 months –Auto Bill or 2nd dose MMR 4 years –Auto Bill)
- People who spent their childhood in Fiji, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Papua New Guinea, Nauru are likely to have had the MR vaccine, which does not contain mumps (MR = Measles/Rubella). These people are eligible for two free doses.
- People should contact their doctor if you are not immune for a free MMR vaccine catch up.
- The following information is based on the best evidence available:

Am I immune to mumps?	
You are likely to be immune if:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ you were born prior to 1981, or</li> <li>▪ you have previously had mumps illness, or</li> <li>▪ you have received two doses of MMR vaccine*, or</li> <li>▪ you have had blood tests which confirm immunity to mumps</li> </ul>
You are not considered immune if:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ you do not meet the above criteria, or</li> <li>▪ you have only received one dose of MMR vaccine*, or</li> <li>▪ you are a child aged less than 15 months, as you will have not received any MMR vaccine, or</li> <li>▪ you are a child 15 months to four years, as it is likely you will have had only one dose of MMR vaccine</li> </ul>

\*if you were born in New Zealand on or after 1989, and received all your childhood immunisations, you are likely to have received two doses of MMR vaccine.

For more information on the MMR vaccine, visit:

<http://www.immune.org.nz/vaccines/available-vaccines/m-m-r-ii>

For more information on mumps, including information on quarantine, visit:

<http://www.southerndhb.govt.nz/pages/current-issues-and-health-alerts/>