

# Immunisation Self-Directed Update Training Guide

All those new to immunisation must complete an Immunisation Foundation training programme and practical assessment before immunising. Information on our '**Interprofessional Immunisation Foundation training**' can be viewed on the Cornwall Training Hub website on the [courses](#) page.

## To remain updated, experienced immunisers must;

- Read the latest vaccine news in the [vaccine update](#), [Green Book: Immunisation against infectious disease](#), [Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation](#) etc.
- Attend **annual** interactive updates (either in person or virtual). Interactive updates are considered the best way to update. As a minimum, interactive updates must be undertaken at least every 3 years (virtual or in person).
- If you are unable to attend an interactive update (either in person or virtual), immunisers must still complete a self-directed update (details below).

## It is recommended that a self-directed annual update comprises of the following:

1. Review of the areas advised for update in the [Immunisation training standards for healthcare practitioners](#). Ensure that **all core areas** of immunisation knowledge have been covered as below:
  1. The aims of immunisation, national vaccine policy and schedules.
  2. The immune response to vaccines and how vaccines work.
  3. Vaccine preventable diseases.
  4. The different types of vaccines, their composition and the indications and contraindications.
  5. Current issues in immunisation.
  6. Communicating with patients, parents and carers about vaccines.
  7. Legal issues in immunisation.
  8. Storage and handling of vaccines.
  9. Correct administration of vaccines.
  10. Anaphylaxis and adverse reactions.
  11. Documentation, record keeping and reporting.
  12. Strategies for optimising immunisation uptake.

**These core topics of immunisation are covered in this 70min Cornwall training hub resource [Core Topics of Immunisation - Training video](#)**. Also available is the '[Primary care immunisation webinar series](#)' developed by the UK Health and security agency which cover many of the core topic areas of immunisation.

2. Read all the [vaccine updates](#) (a regular newsletter describing the latest developments in vaccines, and vaccination policies and procedures) since your immunisation foundation or last update.
3. Work through the [competency log](#), (Appendix A of the National Minimum Standards) through reflection identify any areas you need to review or update.
4. Ensure you have completed specific training in **Basic Life Support** and **Anaphylaxis Recognition and Management** annually.

It is recommended you allow a minimum of ½ day protected study time for an annual update, certificates are not provided for self-directed learning. However, reflection on your learning and how much time this took, can be recorded using tools such as the [Nursing and Midwifery Council \(NMC\) reflective accounts form](#) and can be used as part of your continuing professional development and appraisal.

**If you have any questions regarding this training, please contact us**  
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