

දුරකථන) 0112669192, 0112675011
தொலைபேசி) 0112698507, 0112694033
Telephone) 0112675449, 0112675280

ෆැක්ස්) 0112693866
பெக்ஸ்) 0112693869
Fax) 0112692913

විද්‍යුත් තැපෑල) postmaster@health.gov.lk
மின்னஞ்சல் முகவரி)
e-mail)

වෙබ් අඩවිය) www.health.gov.lk
இணையத்தளம்)
website)



සුවසිරිපාය
சுவசிரிபாய

SUWASIRIPAYA

මගේ අංකය)
எனது இல)
My No.) EPI/14/2015

ඔබේ අංකය)
உமது இல)
Your No. :)

දිනය)
திகதி) 18/03/2015
Date)

සෞඛ්‍ය හා දේශීය වෛද්‍ය අමාත්‍යාංශය
சுகாதாரம் மற்றும் சுதேசவைத்திய அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health & Indigenous Medicine

Provincial/Regional Directors of Health Services,
Heads/ Directors of Institutions,
Director/NIHS
All Provincial CCPs
Directors of National Hospital/Teaching Hospitals/Provincial & District General Hospitals, Base
Hospitals,
All Medical Superintendents of other Hospitals,
All Regional Epidemiologists/ Medical Officers (Maternal and Child Health),
All Medical Officers of Health,

Change of the National Immunization schedule: MMR, LJE vaccination

The country is experiencing a measles outbreak situation since 2013 and still continuing with decreasing intensity. Epidemiological investigations have revealed that majority affected were between 9-12 months of age infants, before the 1st dose of MMR vaccination and measles seroprevalence data showed that they do not have maternal antibodies.

This was discussed in detail during the National Immunization Summit 2015 and recommendations were considered by the National Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases (ACCD) meeting held on 6th March 2015. The requirement of immediate change of the MMR vaccination has been identified and decided to bring down the age at vaccination for the 1st dose of MMR to 9 months of age from 1st April 2015. This decision has taken after careful review of safety and efficacy profiles of the vaccine and the practical use of MMR in other countries below the age of 1 year.

Please note that the Live Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine (LJEV) scheduled to be given at the age of 9 months will be given at the age of 1 year, as recommendations given below.

- All children born on or after 30th June 2014, on completion of 9 months of age by the 1st April 2015, should be given MMR 1st dose, from 1st April 2015
- All these children who receive MMR 1st dose at the age of 9 months from 1st April 2015, should be given the LJEV on completion of 1 year of age
- Children born on or before 30th June 2014, who have already received LJEV at the age of 9 months (by 1st April 2015) should be continued with the 1st dose of MMR vaccination once they reach 1 year of age, as with the older schedule

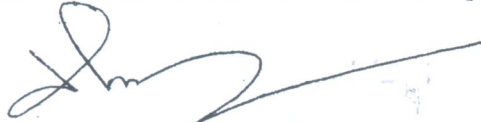
MMR and JE vaccination in National EPI schedule will be amended with effect from 1st April 2015 as follows:

Name of vaccine	Previous schedule	Age	Age
MMR vaccine	1 st dose	1 year	9 months
	2 nd dose - no change and continue at 3 years of age		
LJE vaccine		9 months	1 year

- Documentation in the Child Health Development Record (CHDR) and in all other registers should mention under the relevant age by manually writing the vaccine type at the age of 9 months and at the age of 1 year.

If you need further clarifications or additional information, please contact the Epidemiology Unit (Tel. 0112695112, e mail: epidunit@sltnet.lk).

Please bring the contents of this circular to the notice of all concerned in your province/district/institution/unit and take measures to implement as instructed.


Dr. P.G. Mahipala
DGHS

Copy:

DDH/PHS I & II

DDG/MS I & II

Chief Epidemiologist

Director/FHB

Director/HEB

Director/ Private Health Sector Development

President/College of Paediatricians

President/SLMA