Fact Sheet 1: The National Immunisation Register

What is the National Immunisation Register (NIR)?

The National Immunisation Register (NIR) is a computerised information system that has been developed to hold immunisation details of New Zealand children.

The NIR is a key tool that will assist New Zealand to improve its immunisation coverage. Improved immunisation coverage will offer individual protection against vaccine-preventable diseases and protection for the community against recurring epidemics.

The NIR enables authorised health professionals to quickly and easily find out what vaccines a child has been given (this includes children whose family has shifted or changed healthcare providers). This will help to make sure immunisations are given at the appropriate time. The NIR also provides a more accurate record of immunisation coverage rates – regionally and nationally. This will enable better programme planning to target populations with the lowest immunisation rates.

The NIR was rolled out throughout New Zealand during 2005.

For further information please see www.moh.govt.nz/nir