

Key facts

This Public Health Notice relates only to children who received treatment at Pukekohe Intermediate Dental Clinic between 13 September 2016 and 23 January 2017

There is a small chance that children who had particular procedures may have been exposed to unsterilised water, possibly containing blood or saliva from other patients.

Affected children will be offered catch-up Hepatitis B immunisations and testing for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV infection. These are all extremely rare in New Zealand children.

Appointments will be scheduled at the free Specialist Clinics that have been set-up for testing and follow up or you can talk to your GP.

What is the Public Health Notice?

- Parents and caregivers with children who attended the Pukekohe Intermediate Dental Clinic between 13 September 2016 and 23 January 2017 will be contacted by Public Health Nurses and have an appointment scheduled to take their children to Specialist Clinics that have been established. Some children may require catch up Hepatitis B immunisations and/or blood tests.
- Investigations have indicated that sterile equipment may have come into contact with water contaminated with blood or saliva that was used in some dental procedures.
- The likelihood of exposure of children to a blood borne infection is very low. Hepatitis B virus, Hepatitis C virus and HIV infection are all extremely rare in New Zealand children.
- Most children are already fully protected against Hepatitis B following their infant immunisations.

What should parents and caregivers do?

- We will contact all parents and caregivers of children who attended the clinic in the identified period, to schedule appropriate screening, by telephone and letter.
- Parents who have any further concerns, in the meantime, should contact Healthline on 0800 611 116 or talk to their GP.

Specialist Clinic Locations

Pukekohe Intermediate Dental Clinic

2a Edinburgh Street

Pukekohe

Hours: Monday to Sunday - 8am until 8pm

Pukekohe Hospital

Tuakau Road

Pukekohe

Hours: Monday to Sunday - 8am until 8pm

For more information

If you have any remaining concerns please:

- Phone Healthline on **0800 611 116**.

or

- Seek advice from your **GP**

Further information including frequently asked questions can be found on: www.countiesmanukau.health.nz/ardspukekohe