Planning a new MN/HI collaborative study
Background

• Have consensus protocols for 2 day and 3 day MN assays
  o CONSISE MN collaborative study compared 2 and 3 day protocols for H1N1pdm09 assays using locally-derived sera
  o Could compare 2 day and 3 day assay within a lab but couldn’t examine variability between labs as sera not shared
    o Don’t know whether having consensus MN assays will improve between-lab agreement
    o Don’t know whether an antibody standard will improve between-lab agreement

• Have consensus protocol for HI assay (close to WHO manual)
  o Need to examine whether a consensus HI assay protocol will improve between-lab agreement

• Agreed at Hong Kong CONSISE meeting
  o To compare consensus MN and HI assay protocols versus local protocols
  o To test the same panel of sera in all labs
  o For NMRC to check availability of serum samples
  o To use locally grown stocks of reference virus
Plan for MN/HI collaborative study

Reference virus strain

• Propose to use H1N1pdm09 as sera available for this strain and we have data confirming 2 day and 3 day MN assays may be used interchangeably

Serum panel

• NMRC (Nick Martin) to describe serum panels available.
• Ideally need approx. 10 sera of low, medium and high titre, approx. 10 ml each.

Lab materials

• All labs to supply own reagents

Assays

• Labs should assay all sera by either 2 day or 3 day consensus MN assay protocol and local MN assay protocol and/or by consensus HI assay protocol and local HI assay protocol
• Three assay comparisons should be made

Antibody Standards

• The WHO International Standard for H1N1pdm09 antibody, Mab and antibody sourced from animals should be evaluated