Staffordshire and Shropshire Pharmacy Flu Service 2014-15

If you have a question about the NHS Flu Vaccination service please CHECK THE FAQs BELOW BEFORE CONTACTING US!

Please note the Service Level Agreement and PGD is not yet available, but will appear on this website and be circulated as soon as it is.

Q: Our company organises it’s own training – will it be accredited to provide the NHS service?

A: Most likely, the following are all accepted for accreditation: Novartis (includes AAH, EVG, Co-Op Pharmacy, Tesco, Asda, Rowlands), Numark, Alliance, NPA, Lloyds, Boots, Morrisons – if yours is not listed contact us

Q: What will we paid?

A: £7.64 fee plus NHS vaccines cost (inc VAT)

Q: When do we expect the NHS service to start

A: The service is planned to start on September 1st 2014

Q: If I undertake the Novartis training do I have to use their vaccines?

A: For eligible NHS patients no, although you will need to order a minimum of 20 vaccines from Novartis to be able to access the LPC training as they have subsidised the cost. If you undertake any private vaccinations then you must use the Novartis vaccines, as indicated in the PGD.

Q: How much do Novartis charge for flu vaccines?

A: Please check out the prices on the Novartis order form which is available to download from the main flu jab page on this website.

Q: Can Registered Technicians undertake vaccinations?

A: The vaccination itself has to be done by the pharmacist – in practice this only takes a very short amount of time. Other staff - who will have to be briefed on procedures by the pharmacist - can of course deal with the rest of the process.

Q: If I complete the Novartis training can I offer flu jabs under a different (Non Novartis) Private PGD?

A: No. While it is possible to purchase a PGD for private flu jabs, conditions will apply. E.g. with a private Numark PGD you will only be able to administer vaccines using the Numark PGD if you have undergone Numark training. The Novartis training is therefore suitable for all NHS vaccines and for a private flu jab scheme using the Novartis Private PGD.
Q: If I am having my flu jab training from another training provider do I need to send any forms to the LPC at this time?

A: No. The 4 forms you have received from your LPC are for those pharmacists wishing to undertake Novartis training.

Q: I am fully trained on flu vaccines and have offered the service for 5 years. Obviously I do not require training?

A: If you are already accredited to deliver flu jabs you will still need to complete whatever update your training provider requires for the 2014-2015 season in order to be able to deliver the NHS service. Please contact your training provider to ensure you do the required update (face to face or online depending on their requirements). Please ensure that the training you undertake allows you to vaccinate all adults, including pregnant women and also those with higher bleeding risk (eg warfarin patients) who require sub cut injections.

Q: Do I have to order flu vaccines from Novartis?

A: If you want to complete the Novartis training you are required to place an initial order for 20 vaccines; if you are not completing Novartis training you can purchase the vaccine of your choice. If you want to complete the Novartis training but for any reason you cannot place an order for vaccines (e.g. you are a locum) then we need note in the comments box of the Training Requirement Form explaining their situation i.e. I am a locum – alternatively you work for a small chain of pharmacies and an order has been placed by ….. (insert name / pharmacy).

Q: How do locums enroll on the service?

A: Locums must be suitably trained to deliver flu jabs. If they wish to attend the Novartis training they will not be required to place the initial order for 20 vaccines but need to make sure they put “working as a locum in pharmacy which will be offering the service” on the form they return so that Novartis do not expect a vaccine order from them. (see answer above).

Locums will have to sign a copy of the Flu jab PGD in every pharmacy where they deliver the service and any forms required by the Area Team (once sent out by AT).

Q: What forms do I need to return to the Area Team?

A: The Area Team will send out an offer letter along with the service spec and PGD for you to sign. You should follow the AT instructions on what to complete and where to return the forms. This will apply regardless which training provider you use for your flu jab training and will be in addition to the 4 forms already sent out by the LPC.

Q: Can we vaccinate patients who need a sub cut vaccine (warfarin patients)?

A: The service spec will allow sub cut injections so you will be able to vaccinate these patients providing that you have been suitably trained (e.g. Novartis training will include sub-cut injections).

Q: Do other Health Care Professionals across Staffordshire and Shropshire know about the pharmacy flu jab service?

A: The Area Team have informed the CCGs locally about the pharmacy service.

Q: Can I attend any of the training dates listed?

A: Yes you can attend any of the training dates listed.