Pharmacy Flu Service 2014-15 – FAQs

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 PGD is not yet available, but will appear on this website and be circulated as soon as it is.

Q: When are the Area Team sending out the new SLA?

A: The AT are not issuing a new SLA – you need to sign the one which was originally sent out. The Area Team will sign it and return it to you dated for Nov first so the service can start.

Q: I am confused, what do I need to do in order to deliver the service from November 1st?

A: Here is a document highlighting what you need to do next. What do with SLA etc to offer flu service?

Q: Are there any posters available promoting the pharmacy flu jab service

A: There is a poster available either to download or you can contact PHE and order a copy for your pharmacy. The telephone number is 0300 123 1002 and you just have to quote reference number 2901511 so they know which poster you are requesting.

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(please see further FAQ below), EVG, Co-Op Pharmacy, Tesco, Asda, Rowlands), Numark, Alliance, NPA, Lloyds, Boots, Morrisons – if yours is not listed contact us

Q: AAH have told me that they are not using Novartis for training this year – can I still take part?

A: We expect all major training suppliers’ training to be accredited so that as many pharmacists can take part, but we are waiting for confirmation on a few. As for those pharmacists who trained AAH in 2012 or 2013 and delivered 50+ vaccines last year they WILL be able to access the Novartis online-only update for this year as they retain the records for those previous years.

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. **Please note price changed 1st Aug 2014, please download new order form for details.**

Q: I have already returned my Novartis order form showing the old (higher) price, will I be charged the new (lower) price on this order?
A: Yes, Novartis will charge all pharmacies the new vaccine price even if the order was placed using the old form. Please also note they have amended the Ts & Cs and all repeat orders will have to be for 20 vaccines (not 10 as was stated on the original form).

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 woman 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 enrol 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. Copies are now available to download from the LPC websites.

If you wish to provide this service from your pharmacy, then please read the SLA and return the signed Acceptance Form (on page 8 of SLA) for the attention of Andrew Pickard at the Area Team, or send a scanned copy to a.pickard@nhs.net.

**Andrew Pickard**
Shropshire & Staffordshire Area Team
Anglesey House
Towers Plaza, Wheelhouse Road, Rugeley WS15 1UL

Please complete the forms and follow the instructions from the Area Team regardless of which training provider you use for your flu jab training. Completion and return of these forms to AT is required for your pharmacy to deliver NHS Flu jab service and this is 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 PGD 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: Where can I find the Pharmacy Flu Jab PGD?

A: The PGD has not been released but will be added to the website as soon as it has been signed off at the Area Team.

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: Where can I get the latest version of the Green Book – information on influenza vaccination and risk groups?