



**SPINA BIFIDA
HYDROCEPHALUS
IRELAND**

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6th November 2009

RE: H1N1 vaccination

Dear Parent/Member,

Please find enclosed information with regards to At-risk groups of Swine Flu.

As the conditions Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus are within this At-risk group, SBHI advises that you consult with your medical practitioner regarding the H1N1 vaccination.

Also enclosed is a list of clinics where the H1N1 vaccine is being administered nationwide, free of charge.

If you require further information on Swine Flu or the H1N1 vaccine you can contact your Family Support Worker or visit www.swineflu.ie, Free phone 1800 94 11 00 or text 'FLU' to 51444.

Kind Regards

The Family Support Team

Recommendations for use of pandemic influenza (H1N1)v vaccine

The groups of patients at high risk of severe or complicated infection with pandemic influenza (H1N1)v are shown below. It is recommended that in-patients who fall into an “at-risk” category should be vaccinated provided that there are no contraindications present. “Pandemrix” manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline is recommended by the IMB and HSE for use in children. The current recommendation is that 2 doses of vaccine at least 3 weeks apart will be required for protection in children up to 13 years of age, and for all immunosuppressed/immunodeficient individuals. The dosage recommendations are as follows:

- Children <13 years of age: 0.25ml “Pandemrix” vaccine administered intramuscularly, with a second 0.25ml dose administered > 3 weeks later. Immunocompetent children >13 years: 0.5ml dose “Pandemrix”.
- All immunosuppressed children require to be given 2 doses of vaccine at the dosage appropriate for their age.

N.B. Immunisation should be deferred in any patient who has acute infectious disease or who is pyrexial.

At-Risk Groups

The following high-risk groups of inpatients should be offered H1N1 vaccination ASAP. These groups are based on adaptation of the NIAC recommendations *the Department of Health and Children for prioritising people at high risk from pandemic (H1N1) 2009 infection.*

Risk Group	Priority	Reason
<i>Cystic Fibrosis</i>	<i>Very high</i>	<i>Irish data show this group is very high risk of severe outcomes. This is most likely due to the high rate of staphylococcal and other bacterial infections seen in this group.</i>
<i>Neurological condition with chronic airway problem or cardiac condition</i>	<i>Very high</i>	<i>International and Irish data show that people with neurological disease are at very high risk of hospitalisation and death. Where description of the neurological risk factor is provided there is an association with airway or cardiac problems in the vast majority of cases.</i>
<i>Haemoglobinopathies</i>	<i>Very high</i>	<i>Irish data show this group is very high risk of hospitalisation.</i>
<i>Immunodeficiency due to treatment or disease</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Irish data show high levels of hospitalisations in this group. *See below for guidance re vaccinating this group</i>
<i>Type 2 diabetes with obesity</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>International evidence shows an association between obesity and diabetes and severe outcome</i>
<i>Haemodynamically significant cyanotic or acyanotic congenital heart disease</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Evidence from Irish and international hospital experience confirms this group is very high risk of adverse outcomes</i>

<i>Chronic Respiratory disease (excluding asthma)</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Evidence from Irish and international hospital experience confirms this group is very high risk of adverse outcomes</i>
<i>People on regular preventive treatment for asthma</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>The literature does not differentiate between mild and severe asthma. However, clinical judgement and known physiological processes suggest that those with more severe disease are more at risk of severe outcomes</i>
<i>Chronic renal disease</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Irish and international data show lower rates of hospitalisation in this group than in other risk groups</i>
<i>Chronic liver disease</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Irish and international data show lower rates of hospitalisation in this group than in other risk groups</i>
<i>Those on intermittent treatment for asthma</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>The literature does not differentiate between mild and severe asthma. However, clinical judgement and known physiological processes suggest that those with more severe disease are more at risk of severe outcomes</i>
<i>All other chronic neurological conditions (excluding isolated epilepsy)</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>As above. There is no physiological reason that isolated epilepsy would increase risk above the general population.</i>
<i>Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes without obesity</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>There is evidence in the international literature that diabetes is associated with severe outcomes, however this may be confounded by other disease processes likely to occur in this group. To date, the Irish data does not show an overrepresentation of diabetes in hospitalised cases compared with population prevalence.</i>
<i>Morbid obesity</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>There is evidence in the international literature that morbid obesity is associated with severe outcomes, however this may be confounded by other disease processes likely to occur in this group. The Irish data does not show an overrepresentation of morbid obesity in hospitalised cases compared with population prevalence.</i>

*Immunodeficiency

People currently immunodeficient or who will become immunodeficient due to treatment or disease should be vaccinated if they are suitable for vaccination. Suitability for vaccination should be discussed with the consultant.

The household contacts of people who are immunodeficient and not suitable for vaccination should be vaccinated. This group includes people undergoing active chemotherapy or receiving immunosuppressive treatment at a level that makes them unable to respond to vaccination, and for 6 months following treatment.

Children less than 6 months who are in an at-risk group

Children less than 6 months cannot receive pandemic (H1N1) 2009 vaccine.

Household contacts of these children should receive pandemic (H1N1) 2009 vaccine.

Bookings can only be made over 24 hours before the appointment - this means that for clinic visits at 2pm on a Wednesday, you need to make a booking before 2pm on Tuesday. You can visit the clinic without a booking if you wish, but waiting times might apply for walk-in visits. Please note Kildare clinic is by appointment only.

Carlow/Kilkenny	
Pre-Discharge Unit, Kilcreene Hospital, Kilkenny	Nov 2nd-6th, 9.30am-4.30pm Nov 16th-20th, 9.30am-4.30pm
St. Anne's Ward, St. Dymphna's Hospital, Athy Road, Carlow Town	Nov 9th-13th, 9.30am-4.30 pm Nov 23rd-27th, 9.30am-4.30pm
South Tipperary	
St. Claire's Ward, St. Luke's Hospital, Western Road, Clonmel	Mon, Tues, Wed 9.30am-4.30pm
Our Lady's Hospital, Boherclough St, Cashel	Thurs, Fri 9.30am-4.30pm
Waterford	
HSE Community Services, Cork Road, Waterford	Thurs 9.30am-4.30pm Friday 9.30am-12noon
New Community Day Hospital, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford	Mon, Tues, Wed 9.30am-4.30pm
Wexford	
St. John's Old Community Hospital, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Cork City	
Neptune Stadium, Blackpool, Cork City - 2 Clinics in 1 location - people can be vaccinated in either clinic	Mon, Tues 10am-4pm Thur, Fri 10am-3pm
North Cork	
Mallow GAA Complex, Mallow, Co Cork	Mon-Fri 10am-3pm
West Cork	
Clonakilty Industrial Hall, Clonakilty, Co Cork	Mon-Fri 10am-3pm
Kerry	
St. Columbanus' Home, Killarney, Co. Kerry	Mon-Fri 10am-3pm

Dublin Northside	
Darndale/Belcamp Community Sports Hall, behind Darndale/Belcamp Village Centre, Priorswood Rd, Darndale, D.17	Mon- Fri 9.30am-5pm
Ballymun Health Centre, Ballymun Civic Centre, Dublin 9	Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm
St. Brendans, Old School of Nursing Hall, St Brendan's Hospital, Rathdown Road, Dublin 7	Mon 9th Nov, Thurs 12th Nov, Fri 13th Nov 9.30-4pm Mon 16th Nov-Fri 27th Nov open all week 9.30-4pm Mon 23rd Nov, Tues 24th Nov, Fri 27th Nov 9.30am- 4pm
FOLD Housing Unit, Cherryfield Lawn, Hartstown, Dublin 15	Tue 10th Nov, Wed 11th Nov 9.30am-4pm Tue 17th Nov, Wed 18th Nov 9.30-4pm Wed 25th Nov, Thur 26th Nov 9.30am-4pm
Dublin Southside	
Bru Chaoimhin, Cork St, Dublin 8	Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm
HSE Primary Care Centre, Rockfield Medical Centre, Balally, Dublin 16 (near Balally Luas Station/Dundrum Town Centre)	Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm
St. Colmcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown Tel: 01 2115025 Please Do Not contact the main hospital	Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm
Education Centre, Tallaght Hospital, Tallaght	Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm
Bridge House, Cherry Orchard Hospital, Dublin 10	Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm
Cavan/Monaghan	
Ballinagh Community Centre, Main Street, Ballinagh, Co. Cavan	Nov 9th-10th, 9.30am-5pm Nov 23rd-24th, 9.30am-5pm
Balieboro Community Centre, Chapel Road, Bailieboro	Nov 5th-6th, 9.30am-5pm Nov 19th-20th, 9.30am-5pm
Teach na Daoine, Oriel Rd, (off Clones Road), Monaghan	Nov 2nd,3rd,4th, 9.30-5pm Nov 16th,17th,18th, 9.30-5pm
St. Mary's Hospital, Castleblaney	Nov 11th-12th, 9.30am-5pm Nov 25th-26th, 9.30am-5pm
Meath	

Dunshaughlin Health Care Unit - Ground Floor, Dunshaughlin	Mon and Fri 9.30am-5pm
Physiotherapy Dept, Our Lady's Hospital Campus, Navan	Tue, Wed, Thur 9.30am-5pm
Louth	
Louth Community Services, Dublin Rd, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Tue, Wed, Fri 9.30am-5pm
Haymarket Health Centre, John Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth	Mon and Thur 9.30am-5pm
Wicklow	
Wicklow Health Centre, Glenside Road, Wicklow	Mon, Tues, Fri 9.30am-5pm Clinic CLOSED from Wed 11th Nov
Newcastle Hospital, Newcastle, Greystones	Wed, Thurs 9.30am-5pm Clinic CLOSED from Wed 11th Nov
St. Colemans Hospital, Rathdrum	Clinic operating from Wed 11th Nov Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm
Laois / Offaly	
Riada House, Arden Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly	9.30am-5.00pm Thurs 5th Nov Fri 6th Nov Wed 11th Nov Thurs 12th Nov Fri 13th Nov
Conference Rooms, St. Fintan's Hospital, Portlaoise	9.30am-5.00pm Mon 2nd Nov Tues 3rd Nov Wed 4th Nov Mon 9th Nov Tues 10th Nov
Longford/Westmeath	
Ward 1, Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath	Mon, Tues 9.30am-5pm
St. Joseph's Care Centre, Dublin Road, Longford (Beside MIDOC/Out Patients)	Wed, Thurs 9.30am-5pm
HSE Resource Centre, Clonbrusk, Athlone, Co. Westmeath (near B&Q)	Fri 9.30-5pm
Kildare / West Wicklow	
Out Patients Department, Naas General Hospital.	Mon 9.30am-5pm Tues 2pm-5pm Wed 9.30am-

	5pm Thurs 9.30am-5pm Fri 2pm-5pm
Clare	
HSE Community Physiotherapy Dept, Tobartaoscaín, Ennis, Co. Clare	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Limerick	
HSE Building, Ballycummin Business Park, Raheen Industrial Estate, Limerick (Signposted from entrance to Industrial Estate)	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
North Tipperary	
HSE, The Derg Centre, Gortland Roe, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary	Mon 9.30am-5pm Tues 9am-4:30pm Wed 9.30am-5pm Thurs 9.30am-5pm Fri 9.30am-5pm
Roscommon	
Flat 4, Roscommon County Hospital, Roscommon Town	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Mayo	
Clinical Decision Unit, Mayo General Hospital, Castlebar, Co. Mayo	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Galway	
Education Centre, Merlin Park Hospital, Dublin Road, Galway City	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	
Nazareth House, Church Hill, Sligo Town	Mon, Wed & Fri 9.15am-12.15pm 1.15pm-5.15pm From Fri, 13th Nov, the clinic opening hours will be: Mon, Wed & Fri 9.15am-12.15pm 1.15pm-4.15pm
Donegal	
Mulroy Room/Gweebarra Room, Education Centre, St Conal's, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal	Mon-Fri 9am-5pm