



Vaccinations Primary Care Contractors
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Memo to Pharmacists re LAIV Schools Programme

Dear Pharmacist,

The Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) Schools Programme 2024/2025 is due to commence on 7th October 2024. Thank you to those who have returned the Schools LAIV Template.

Confirmation of primary school participation

Some schools may have been contacted by multiple providers. Having reviewed the returned forms, there appear to be some instances where details of the same primary school have been provided by more than one contractor. It is important at this stage that Pharmacists confirm their arrangements with the schools in which they will facilitate vaccination to avoid duplication in the provision of the LAIV on-site.

Please return any additions or amendments to your earlier submission to VPCC at Vaccinations.PrimaryCareContractors@hse.ie using the form located [here](#), including details of any schools who are no longer availing of the service from your practice, as soon as possible.

Stock and Ordering

Stock allocation of Fluenz nasal spray suspension (LAIV) to Pharmacists for school-based vaccination will be based on the information provided on the planning forms as outlined above. Stock will be available to order through the online portal with deliveries occurring on a fortnightly basis as per National Cold Chain Service (NCCS) delivery calendar. It is envisaged that the first fortnightly cycle of deliveries will be completed in advance of the LAIV schools programme commencement. In order to maximise stock management efficiency, and in light of the short expiry dates of these vaccines, sites are requested to only order what is anticipated to be used between deliveries

Pharmacists are advised to schedule their primary school clinics in accordance with the delivery calendar and any additional requests for vaccine can be made by contacting NCCS at vaccines@udd.ie.

Note: it is advisable to confirm arrangements with schools in advance of vaccine ordering.

Data Entry

A valid PPSN is required for the administration of HSE Influenza vaccines.

As there are many providers of flu vaccinations, it is essential that all vaccines given are recorded promptly onto the IT systems that sends data to COVAX, so that clinical records are kept up to date and two doses are not administered in error.

Vaccinators may receive a phone call from HSELive to clarify data quality (DQ) items. HSELive is part of the HSE and the team work closely with the NIO and contracting office to seek clarification to resolve DQ issues. There is dedicated line for Pharmacies to ring HSELive, in relation to DQ issues which is: 01 2408786.



Clinical

The updated clinical guidance and toolkit to support vaccinators in the provision of LAIV will be available at: www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/fluinfo/

Vaccine Storage

Details on the maintenance of the vaccine cold chain and management of vaccines is available at: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/vaccineordering/>

Operational Support and Updates

There are a number of LAIV schools programme resources available on the VPCC website at: www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/gmscontracts/vaccination-primary-care-contractors-programme/laiv-schools-programme-planning-2024-2025/

PharmaVax updates

In advance of the winter vaccination programme PharmaVax will be updated the week commencing 23rd of September to allow for the capture of a school's Facility Identifier (Facility ID). Pharmacists can search for a school under a number of unique identifiers such as Eircode, school name/address or the school roll number.

Pharmacists will also be able to set the school as the vaccination location by default in PharmaVax. This can be set as a temporary default at the start of the session for each vaccination recorded.

The Facility ID of each Primary School in which Pharmacists provide the LAIV service must be recorded within PharmaVax.

Kind regards,

Vaccinations Primary Care Contractors Team

Enhanced Community Care Programme and Primary Care Contracts

Email: Vaccinations.PrimaryCareContractors@hse.ie

Website: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/gmscontracts/vaccination-primary-care-contractors-programme/>