




**Protocol for the administration of the Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) Fluenz Nasal Spray to children between 2-17 years of age for the 2024/2025 influenza season, by PHECC registered Vaccinators (Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics).**

(This document is to be read in conjunction with the Master Medicine Protocol published by National Immunisation Office for administration of Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) Fluenz Nasal Spray to children between 2-17 years of age)

<p><b>Name of Organisation where this protocol applies</b></p>	<p>Health Service Providers across the voluntary and statutory services of the Health Service Executive (HSE), in vaccination clinic centres. This protocol applies to registered Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics) involved in the administration of the Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) Fluenz Nasal Spray to children between 2-17 years of age under this protocol. This protocol does not apply where practitioners are deployed on behalf of a PHECC Licensed CPG Service Provider.</p>
<p><b>Date this protocol comes into effect</b></p>	<p>12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024</p>
<p><b>Date for review of this protocol</b></p>	<p>30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2026</p> <p>The first version of this document is dated 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024. This document is subject to ongoing revision. Please refer to the current version available on the NIO website</p>
<p><b>Document prepared by:</b></p>	<p>Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council in consultation with the National Immunisation Office (NIO)</p>
<p><b>Names and Signatures of the officers authorising the implementation of this protocol</b></p> <p><i>“On behalf of the HSE as the approving authority of the LAIV training programme for registered PHECC Practitioners, I have read this protocol and authorise its implementation”</i></p>	<p>Name: <b>Mr Richard Lodge</b>, Director, Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council</p> <p>Signature:</p>  <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/>



## Section B: Information Specific to Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC)

**registered Vaccinators (Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics), for the administration of Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) Fluenz Nasal Spray to children between 2-17 years of age for the 2024/2025 influenza season for Health Service Executive (HSE) vaccination programme.**

Statutory Instruments No. 245 of 2021 and 422 of 2023 enables health care professionals (including Registered EMT, Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics) who are vaccinators as professions that can administer the Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) Fluenz Nasal Spray to children between 2-17 years of age for the 2024/2025 Health Service Executive (HSE) seasonal influenza vaccination programme (SIVP).

In order to administer the vaccine, PHECC registered Vaccinators (EMT, Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics) **must read and understand** the vaccine specific master medicine protocol for the administration of LAIV Fluenz Nasal Spray.

PHECC registered Vaccinators (EMT, Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics) shall **complete the Self-Assessment of Competency Form** included in this section. The medicine protocol and the Self-Assessment of Competency Form are available at [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie)

PHECC registered Vaccinators (EMT, Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics) **must** have attained the professional qualification, training and competence requirements as listed below in order to be eligible to administer LAIV Fluenz Nasal Spray using the HSE master medicine protocol for this vaccine.

<p><b>Professional qualifications, training, experience and competence required prior to using this medicine protocol</b></p>	<p>The PHECC registered Vaccinators (EMT, Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics) must have completed all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be a Registered EMT, Paramedic or advanced paramedic on the active register maintained by PHECC</li> <li>2. Be currently certified at Cardiac First Response – Advanced within the last two years</li> <li>3. Initial <i>National Anaphylaxis Education Programme for Health Care Professionals</i> accessible on <a href="http://www.HSElanD.ie">www.HSElanD.ie</a> followed by a two hour classroom based skills workshop. Recertification is required every two years by completing the on-line <i>National Anaphylaxis Education Programme for Health Care Professionals</i> accessible on <a href="http://www.HSElanD.ie">www.HSElanD.ie</a></li> <li>4. Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) education programme 2024/2025 accessible on <a href="http://www.HSElanD.ie">www.HSElanD.ie</a></li> <li>5. Critically examining the evidence and practice of holding children for clinical procedures (Masterclass Recording - 6th Dec 2022) accessible on <a href="http://www.HSElanD.ie">www.HSElanD.ie</a></li> <li>6. Self-Assessment of Competency Form for LAIV Fluenz Nasal Spray (included in this Section B document)</li> <li>7. COVAX online programme available at: <a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/hsecovid19vms.html">https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/hsecovid19vms.html</a></li> <li>8. <i>Flu vaccine – protect yourself, protect others</i>, available at <a href="http://www.HSElanD.ie">www.HSElanD.ie</a></li> <li>9. <i>Storing and Managing Vaccines</i>, available at <a href="http://www.HSElanD.ie">www.HSElanD.ie</a></li> </ol>
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**The PHECC registered Vaccinators (EMT, Paramedics and Advanced Paramedics) must be familiar with the following list of clinical documents:**

1. National Immunisation Advisory Committee (2023) *Anaphylaxis: Immediate Management in the Community* available at: <https://www.rcpi.ie/Healthcare-Leadership/NIAC/Immunisation-Guidelines-for-Ireland>
2. National Immunisation Advisory Committee *Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland*: Royal College of Physicians of Ireland National Immunisation Advisory Committee available at: <https://www.rcpi.ie/Healthcare-Leadership/NIAC/Immunisation-Guidelines-for-Ireland>
3. Master Medicine Protocol for LAIV (found on [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie))
4. National Clinical Guideline No. 30 (2023) – Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a057e-infection-prevention-and-control-ipc/>.
5. PHECC (2017) *Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registrants*. Available at: [https://www.phecit.ie/PHECC/Public\\_and\\_patients/Code\\_of\\_professional\\_conduct\\_and\\_ethics/PHECC/Public\\_and\\_Patients/Code\\_of\\_Professional\\_Conduct\\_and\\_Ethics/Code\\_of\\_Professional\\_Conduct\\_and\\_Ethics.aspx?key=2fc616eb-7865-4bbb-8526-7a6f25ddb54c](https://www.phecit.ie/PHECC/Public_and_patients/Code_of_professional_conduct_and_ethics/PHECC/Public_and_Patients/Code_of_Professional_Conduct_and_Ethics/Code_of_Professional_Conduct_and_Ethics.aspx?key=2fc616eb-7865-4bbb-8526-7a6f25ddb54c)



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(PRINT CLEARLY in CAPITALS)

**Self-Assessment of Competency to Administer LAIV Vaccine under Medicine Protocol**

	<b>Critical Element</b>	<b>Competent</b> Date/Initials	<b>Needs Practice</b> Date/Initials	<b>Needs Theory</b> Date/Initials
1.	I practice within my scope of practice to undertake administration of Seasonal influenza vaccine under medicine protocol.			
2.	I am familiar with and adhere to the practices as set out in <i>Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland</i> (NIAC).			
3.	I understand the role and function of medicine protocols in the context of NIAC guidelines and understand the current medicine protocol for this vaccination programme.			
4.	I have successfully completed the National Immunisation Office (NIO) education programme for LAIV, available at <a href="http://www.immunisation.ie">www.immunisation.ie</a>			
5.	I have attended Cardiac First Response - Advanced within the last two years and am currently certified.			
6.	I am competent in safe intranasal vaccine administration technique.			
7.	I have successfully completed an approved Anaphylaxis education programme as outlined in the medicine protocol. I am familiar with NIAC (2023) <i>Anaphylaxis: Immediate Management in the Community</i> .			
8.	I have the knowledge and skills to safely administer the vaccine regarding the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of the vaccine for administration</li> <li>• Documentation of the details of the vaccine to include the vaccine label which has the batch number and expiry date details</li> <li>• Date and time and site of administration of vaccine</li> <li>• Vaccinator ID</li> </ul>			
9.	I undertake to review the most current vaccination information from the NIO - <a href="http://www.immunisation.ie">www.immunisation.ie</a> .			
	I can discuss the benefits of this vaccine for children and potential side effects to the child, parent/legal guardian.			
10.	I can outline the inclusion/exclusion criteria for administering LAIV under the named medicine protocol.			
11.	I have the appropriate skills and knowledge to assess children's suitability for vaccination, which includes a clinical assessment of children, presenting for vaccination within the scope of the medicine protocol			
14	I have the knowledge and skills to effectively communicate with the child and parent/legal guardian and use play and distraction during this procedure			
12.	I understand when and how to refer those children who meet the exclusion criteria to the relevant medical practitioner for an individual medical assessment as per medicine protocol			
13.	I am familiar with the documentation required to support implementation of the medicine protocol to ensure safe administration of LAIV			
14.	I can provide written and verbal information in relevant language and advice to the child, parent/legal guardian to support the individual to make an informed consent available at: <a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/botpipa/consentukr.pdf">https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/botpipa/consentukr.pdf</a>			
15.	I am aware of the procedure for treatment and reporting of adverse reactions.			

16.	I understand the procedure for reporting and documentation of medication errors/near misses.			
17.	I dispose of all equipment and sharps in accordance with the National clinical guideline for Infection prevention & control HSE (2023).			
18.	I am aware of and comply with the guidance on vaccine storage and handling including the maintenance of the cold chain in accordance with national and local policies.			
	<p>I have undertaken the following HSE LanD/online programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AMRIC Aseptic Technique <a href="http://www.hseland.ie">www.hseland.ie</a></li> <li>• AMRIC Hand Hygiene <a href="http://www.hseland.ie">www.hseland.ie</a></li> <li>• GDPR Guidelines <a href="http://www.hseland.ie">www.hseland.ie</a></li> <li>• National Consent Policy: <a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/national-office-human-rights-equality-policy/consent/">https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/national-office-human-rights-equality-policy/consent/</a></li> </ul>			

*I have sufficient theoretical knowledge and practice to undertake vaccination under this medicine protocol independently, and I acknowledge my responsibility to maintain my own competence in line with current best evidence.*

PHECC Registered Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic or Advanced Paramedic

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*If any deficits in theory and/or clinical practice are identified, the PHECC Registered Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic or Advanced Paramedic must discuss with relevant line manager and implement appropriate action plan to achieve competency within an agreed time frame.*

**Action Plan** (for use if needed to reach competencies outlined)

Action necessary to achieve competency:

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Date to be achieved: .....

Supporting evidence of measures taken to achieve competency:

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PHECC Registered EMT, Paramedic or Advanced Paramedic signature	Date:
_____	_____

Line Manager Signature	Date:
_____	_____