PSI
CUMANN CÓGAISEOIRÍ NA hÉIREANN
The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland

AN RIALTÓIR CÓGAISÍOCHTA
THE PHARMACY REGULATOR

# Programme Specification for The Administration of Influenza Vaccination Training Course

Version 1.0

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# Part One
# Generic Interim Accreditation Standards

The Generic Interim Accreditation Standards for Formal Programmes of Learning for Pharmacy in Ireland[1] apply to educational programmes for the Influenza Vaccine Training Course. These generic standards should be referred to when accrediting the associated education and training programme(s).

# Part Two
# Indicative Desired Programme Content and Deliverables

The clinical aspects addressed in this specification are intended to refresh and build on the existing knowledge-base and expertise of pharmacists. Specifically the aim of the training is to enable pharmacists to, competently and safely:

- Respond to, and prepare for, a request for influenza vaccination in the pharmacy setting
- Perform relevant assessment of patients in order to administer the correct medicine
- Administer influenza vaccine to adults

It is recommended that the learning objectives be achieved through an on-line learning format. Pharmacists must meet the relevant training requirements as specified by the PSI Council.

The following indicative learning objectives are a general guide for training providers to an appropriate scope of the curriculum content for this programme.

The Learning Objectives have been broadly divided into the following 2 key areas:

### Key Area 1: Principles of Influenza Infection and Vaccination

The following is a general guide for course providers on the learning objectives that participants would be expected to attain on successful completion of a module in this area:

- Discuss the aetiology and transmission of influenza
- Explain the signs and symptoms of influenza infection, and resultant complications
- Identify high risk groups and those that should receive vaccination
- Describe the epidemiology and disease burden of seasonal influenza infection including relevant types of strains
- Explain relevant details of Type A (epidemic, pandemic – and signpost influenza pandemic response information) for comparison

[1] Revised version approved by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland on 26 June 2012.

- Describe influenza vaccination including its impact and programme objectives according to relevant national policy, guidelines and agencies
- Discuss the annual development of vaccines for the most likely circulating virus strains
- Explain the mechanism of action, contraindications, cautions, side effects, dose and routes of administration of the influenza vaccines available
- Explain relevant vaccine details for the vaccines available for comparison
- Detail the procedure to assess patients for suitable influenza vaccines
- Explain the importance of patient education given the vaccine is administered annually and its effectiveness varies

## Key Area 2: Administration of Influenza Vaccine

The following is a general guide for course providers on the learning objectives that participants would be expected to attain on successful completion of a module in this area:

### Pre-vaccination

- Encourage patient engagement with the vaccination service and uptake in at risk groups
- Vaccine selection and checking
- Explain the storage and handling of influenza vaccines
- Identify the key principles in the provision of patient education on influenza vaccination
- State the methods employed to ascertain critical patient information, including communication with other healthcare professionals regarding the patient's influenza immunisation history (where necessary)
- Assess the patient for suitability (inclusion/exclusion criteria, postponement and suitability of administration with other vaccinations) and the correct schedule for influenza vaccination

### Administration

- Compare and contrast the range of influenza vaccines available on the Irish market and clearly detail what vaccines pharmacists are authorised to administer (seasonal influenza)
- Explain how the appropriate dose and product of influenza vaccine is selected
- Describe the correct positioning of the patient – intramuscular injection to the anterolateral aspect of the deltoid muscle of the upper arm adults

### Post-vaccination

- Describe the system in place to record/document the administration of influenza vaccine
- Specify the requirement to notify other health providers (including the patient's usual prescriber) and agencies with appropriate details as required (including information on adverse drug reactions)
- Briefly explain the steps following influenza vaccination, to be explained to the patient including; expected side effects and how to manage these, and adverse reactions
- Reflect on the delivery of the service and obtain feedback to ensure continuous quality improvement

# References


- Health Service Executive http://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/fluinfo/
- Health Protection Surveillance Centre website http://www.hpsc.ie/A-Z/Respiratory/Influenza/
- Royal College of Physicians of Ireland Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland, 2013 and subsequent updates (Chapter 11 Influenza Infection) http://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/guidelines/immunisationguidelines.html
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases "The Pink Book-12th edition. April 2011 available at http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/index.html
- Department of Health UK (now updated by Public Health England). Immunisation against infectious diseases "The Green Book"2006 and subsequent updates available at https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book
- Health Protection Scotland Immunisation and Vaccine Preventable Diseases Guidelines http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/immvax/guidelines.aspx
- Immunisation Scotland website http://www.immunisationscotland.org.uk/index.aspx
- New Zealand Ministry of Health Immunisation Handbook 2014 http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/immunisation-handbook-2014

(All websites accessed 10.1.16)

## Acknowledgements

The following regulators and professional bodies have been consulted:

- Royal Pharmaceutical Society
- General Pharmaceutical Council
- Alberta College of Pharmacists
- Alberta Pharmacists' Association
- Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand
- Pharmacy Council of New Zealand
- American Pharmacists’ Association
- College of Pharmacists of British Columbia
- Canadian Council for Continuing Education in Pharmacy
- Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education
- Australian Pharmacy Council
- Pharmaceutical Society of Australia
- Pharmacy Board of Australia
- Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland
- National Association of Pharmacy Boards
- National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities
- Public Health England