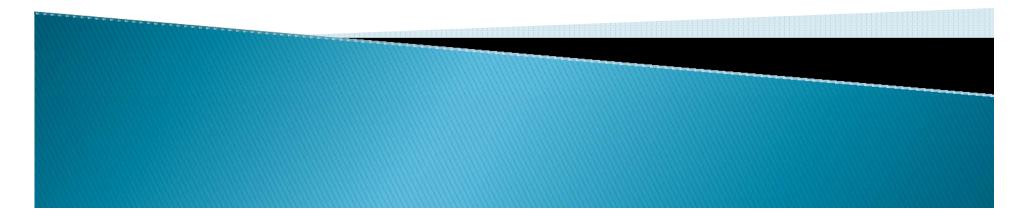
# Guidelines: Professional Practice Considerations in Vaccinations

Kathy McSharry Professional Development Coordinator for Practice Nurses



# Outline

- Professional Body
- Service Contract/Agreement
- Promoting Vaccinations
- Supporting Guidelines
- Education and Training
- Medication Protocols
- Documentation
- Reporting



### **Professional Body**

Professional Registration
INMB/IMC

Code- Set Standards

Competency

Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives



### Service agreement

- In order to provide childhood vaccination a GP must hold a current contract under the Primary Childhood Immunisation Programme.
- > Once the contract is in place the GP should make contact with the HSE National Cold Chain Service, complete a set up form and will then receive a vaccine delivery schedule.
- > Changes in practice addresses, additional practices or movement between practices must be notified in writing to the HSE.



### **Promoting Vaccinations**

- Professional responsibility clear and consistent messages
- Vaccinations and our obligation to others heard immunity protection – promoting same
- & vaccination is not compulsory!



### Guidelines



The clinical & administrative guidelines apply to

- General Practitioners ( with Immunisation Contract)
- > Practice Nurses
- > Practice Administrators
- involved in vaccinations on behalf of the HSE

#### &

HSE staff

- Medical Officers
- > Specialist Immunisation Nurses
- > HSE Administrators
- supporting vaccine administration in general practice. (Guidelines for Staff- Schools Vaccination Programme, Sept 2015)



### Set up and training

- Staff involved in vaccination should ensure that they have training in Basic Life Support and where possible Anaphylaxis, and that retraining is sought in accordance with best practice i.e. every 2 years.
- The GP should ensure that all general practice staff involved in the provision of vaccination in general practice are aware of all relevant guidelines and should facilitate any training required.

### **General Practice role**

Vaccinations administered in general practice on behalf of the HSE are part of a national strategy to protect children and adults from infectious diseases through vaccination and include:

Primary Childhood Immunisation Programme

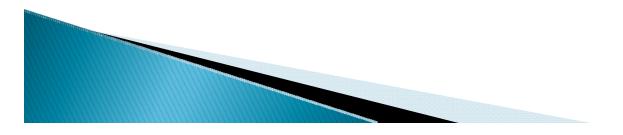
- Schools Immunisation Programme (\*PSB giving by GP in N/W)
- Seasonal influenza and pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccination campaigns
- Vaccination of late entrants/defaulters from vaccination programmes
- Vaccinations carried out for public health and occupational health purposes

### Vaccination delivery in General Practice

To ensure the safe and effective delivery of the immunisation in GP practice it is important that roles and responsibilities of practice staff involved are outlined.

Roles and responsibilities may be assigned on a local basis according to the professional qualifications and expertise of staff.

There are key tasks important to the efficient running of an immunisation programme which are assigned to a "designated person" to ensure that all staff members know who is responsible for that key task. The person designated to a particular task may change or rotate depending on local arrangements.



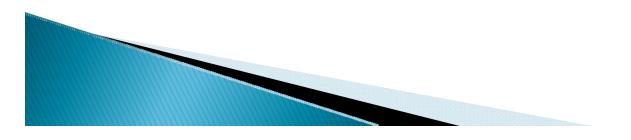
# **Roles and Responsibilities....**

#### **General Practitioner**

- Avail of all opportunities to promote vaccination.
- Prepare an individual Rx or authorise a Medication Protocol prior to vaccine administration
- Assess and Rx for those excluded from MP administration
- Answer questions of parent/guardian/ client
- Inform of possible side effects/ post vaccine management
- Remain in building for 15mins post vaccination
- Report adverse events to Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA)

### Vaccinator/Practice Nurse

- Each vaccinator is accountable for his/her own clinical practice and ensures that they are familiar with & adhere to the practices as set out in the guidelines
- Be available to answer queries from parents/ legal guardians/clients being immunised and other members of the general practice team.
- Check all equipment necessary for the administration of the vaccines is in compliance with best practice.
- Have appropriate drugs and equipment available for resuscitation.
- All documentation is available (return form, patient info, vaccine passport)



### Essential roles to assign

Ordering of vaccines

- Receiving of vaccines from National Cold Chain
- Stock rotation
- Twice daily monitoring of vaccine fridge temperature
- Timely processing of vaccine returns to local immunisation office
- Notify HSE of any reason to terminate communication regarding vaccine uptake

# Reporting adverse events following immunisation

Vaccines used in Ireland have been licensed by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) <u>www.ema.euopera.en</u> in conjunction with the HPRA.

The HPRA has when appropriate, withdrawn products from the Irish market where there have been public safety concerns.

Details of adverse events following immunisation should be recorded on the HPRA adverse event on line report form <u>www.hpra.ie</u>



#### **Prescription** OR Medication Protocol ?

Vaccines are prescription only medicines (POM) requiring a prescription or a MP to be in place prior to their administration.

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland defines medication protocols (MP) as:

*"written directions that allow for the supply and administration of a named medicinal product by a registered nurse or midwife in identified clinical situations". (Guidance to Nurses and Midwives on Medication Management, 2007)* 

### **Medication Protocols**

- An individually named prescription is NOT required for the supply and administration of medication when a medication protocol is in effect.
- Its use should be considered in the context of the clinical situation, safety assurance for the patient/service-user and acceptance of accountability by the healthcare professionals involved.



### **MP use in General Practice**

- Medication Protocols agreed between GP and Practice Nurse
- GP signs to authorise their use
- PN completes 'self assessment document', deems herself competent and meets protocol criteria\*
- PN informs her indemnifier she is working under MP to deliver vaccines



### **Scope of Practice**



Nurses working under medication protocol should do so guided by their scope of practice (NMBI, 2015) and should be supported and encouraged to achieve and maintain competence in all areas.



### Documentation

- Recording clinical practice a professional responsibility.
- Required to maintain accurate and timely records.
- Records are legal documents
- Adhere to professional and data protection guidelines
- HSE Standards and Recommended Practices for Healthcare Records Management Guidance

# Reporting/Notifying

- Reporting Outbreaks –Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC)
- Medication Errors incident report required
- Adverse Reaction Reports HPRA
- Immunisation Refusal Form
- If child no longer attending practice



