



Guidelines for Vaccinations in General Practice

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Introduction

- A multi-disciplinary committee was established by the NIO/HSE to develop guidelines for best practice for immunisations carried out on behalf of the HSE in general practice
- The 'Guidelines for Vaccination in General Practice' Document was published as a result of the work that the committee did
- It is the first document for the immunisation service in general practice that has been nationally agreed by the NIO, HSE and the ICGP



Purpose

- The purpose of the is document is to provide guidance for best practice for vaccinations carried out on behalf of the HSE in general practice



Scope

- Applies to all general practice staff involved in the immunisation service on behalf of the HSE; GPs, PNs, admin
- Includes;
 - Primary vaccinations
 - Seasonal vaccines
 - Late entrants / defaulters (where applicable)
 - Public health and occupational health



Immunisation Schedules

- All staff should promote and support the recommended child and adult immunisation schedules
- NIAC guidance is regularly updated and it is essential that all staff involved check the updated chapters at:

<http://www.immunisation.ie/en/Professionals/ImmunisationGuidelines>



Carrying out Vaccination in General Practice

- All staff should be familiar with the following documents:
 - Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland
 - A Practical Guide to Immunisation
 - Immunisation training slides for HCPs
 - All available at www.immunisation.ie
- SPC from www.medicines.ie



Setting up and training

- Basic Life Support
- Anaphylaxis
- Scope of N&M Practice
- Local policies
- Immunisation updates



Roles and Responsibilities

- General Practitioner role
- Administration of vaccines under individual prescription or medication protocol
- Vaccinator role (GPs and PNs)
- HSE staff (under appendix E)



Medication Protocols

- “Medication Protocols (MP) are written directions that allow for the supply and administration of a named medicinal product by a nurse or midwife in an identified clinical situations. A medication protocol involves the authorisation of the nurse/midwife to supply and administer a medication to groups of patients in a defined situation meeting specific criteria and who may not be individually identified before presentation for treatment”

An Bord Altranais 2007



Procedures

- Before administration
- Consent issues
- Vaccine administration
- After vaccine administration



Reporting adverse events following Immunisation

- Details of adverse events following immunisation (AEFI) should be recorded on the adverse event report form and sent to the HPRA – Health Products Regulatory Authority – formerly the Irish Medicines Board (either by post or online)



Common vaccination administration issues

- Administration of two or more vaccines to the client at the same visit
- Contraindications and precautions
- Specific vaccine issues
- Latex allergy
- Thiomersal
- Vaccine given too early
- Vaccines given after the expiry date
- Refusal of vaccination



Maintenance of Cold Chain and Vaccine Ordering

- Know what's right for vaccines p19
- Procedure for refrigerator maintenance
- Procedure for ordering vaccines
- Procedure for accepting delivery
- Procedure following breakdown in the 'cold chain'



Appendices

- National Immunisation Schedule
- GP practice administration issues
- Sample medication protocol
- Self assessment competency form
- Roles and responsibilities of HSE staff
- HSE area immunisation unit directory
- Departments of Public Health
- Data Entry Standards used in HSE Schools Immunisation Programme



Glossary of Terms

- Immunisation
- Toxoid
- Vaccine
- Vaccination
- Adverse events following immunisation
- Vaccine abbreviations



Guidelines for Vaccinations in General Practice

- Available on line from www.immunisation.ie
- Sent to each general practice surgery during March / April 2013 with vaccines