

To Each General Practitioner

14th March 2011

IMPORTANT NEWS

RE: Update to National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) recommendations for Influenza Vaccine for pregnant women and those up to six weeks post partum and those in the medically at risk groups

Dear Doctor,

The National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) has recommended that pregnant women and those up to six weeks post partum should be treated the same as other medically at risk groups for 2010/2011 and should be offered influenza vaccine during the flu season **(from the beginning of October until the end of April)**.

In the autumn NIAC will issue recommendations regarding seasonal flu vaccine for 2011/2012 and as usual we will write to you when these recommendations have been issued.

Frequently asked questions for healthcare professionals have been updated to reflect this new guidance and are available to download from www.immunisation.ie

Yours sincerely



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Please note that the HSE National Cold Chain Service will collect any unused seasonal and pandemic influenza vaccine from the beginning of May.

Check to see if you have any EXPIRED Pneumovax which should also be returned.