

CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 18 YEARS OLD

**SWINE
B.U**

**IT STOPS
WITH YOU**



November 2009

Swine Flu Vaccine for Children aged 5 – 18 years

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you are aware the Health Service Executive (HSE) is undertaking a campaign to offer Swine Flu vaccine to everyone living in Ireland.

The next priority group for vaccination are children aged 5 years to 18 years of age. The HSE will be attending your school to administer vaccinations before the end of the year.

Current medical advice is that all children under 13 years will require two doses of the vaccine and those 13 years and over may require a second dose. Therefore it is important that you keep a record of your child's first vaccination. However, the second dose will not be offered until all students have had one dose. Details for the second dose will be given at a later date.

Vaccination should be postponed if your child has a temperature over 38°C.

If your child has already started a course of Swine Flu vaccine either from your GP or HSE mass vaccination clinic then your child needs to complete the course there and not take part in the school vaccination programme.

Please find overleaf information on the Swine Flu. Enclosed is a consent form, which we would ask that you complete after reading this information. Please return the consent form to the school so that it is available when the HSE visits the school whether your decision is to consent or refuse consent for your child.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Kevin Kelleher
Health Protection, Health Service Executive

CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 18 YEARS OLD



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Getting the vaccine protects your child from Swine Flu, and it also protects the people around them.

If they don't get flu, they can't pass it on to their family, friends or someone close to them who is not in full health. So, the more people that get the vaccine, the less flu gets passed around.

Why are children aged 5-18 getting the vaccine now?

We want to make sure that we protect as many children as possible from the effects of the flu. Children in this age group are more at risk than adults of getting Swine Flu and also are more at risk of being hospitalised from flu complications.

Students aged 16 years and over can sign their own consent form.

Is the Swine Flu vaccine safe?

Yes. Two Swine Flu vaccines are being used in Ireland, called Pandemrix and Celvapan. Both are licensed by the Irish Medicines Board and have been given to millions of people across Europe already this year. Reactions have been as expected and similar to seasonal flu vaccines. Serious side effects or allergic reactions are very rare and the Swine Flu vaccine cannot give you Swine Flu.

Is there anyone who cannot get the Swine Flu vaccine?

The vaccine should not be given to children under 6 months of age, and should not be given to a child who has a temperature over 38°C. If a child has a severe allergy to eggs, they can have the Celvapan vaccine, as the Pandemrix vaccine is made using eggs. If the Celvapan vaccine is not available at your school, you will be able to access it through a HSE clinic. If your child has any other severe allergies or has previously had Guillain Barré Syndrome, you should note this on the consent form.

What if my child has had Swine Flu, or a Swine Flu vaccine already?

If your child has had Swine Flu since April, they should still get the vaccine, as it may not have been Swine Flu. If they have a confirmed positive laboratory test for Swine Flu they do not need the vaccine.

If your child has a medical condition, they may have already received their first Swine Flu vaccine either from your GP or HSE clinic. If so, you should return there for their second dose and don't need to proceed with the school vaccination.

How long does it take the vaccine to work?

The vaccine starts to work within two weeks.

How many doses will my child need?

Children aged 13 and over will only need one dose of vaccine. Children aged under 13 will need a second dose of vaccine later, and the HSE will inform you when this is available.

What can we expect after vaccination?

The most common side effects will be mild and may include soreness, redness or swelling where the injection was given. Headache, fever, aches, a mild rash and tiredness may occur. Some people may have mild sweating and shivering as their immune system responds to the vaccine, but this is not Swine Flu and will pass after a day or so. Severe or life threatening allergic reactions to vaccines are very rare.

What if my child doesn't feel well after vaccination?

Give them paracetamol or ibuprofen if they have a fever or any pain where the injection was given. Avoid clothes rubbing against the injection area and drink plenty of fluids. Remember, if a child is unwell after getting a vaccine, don't assume the vaccine is the cause – it could be for some other reason, and take medical advice if needed.

Do I have to pay for the vaccine?

The vaccine and its administration are free of charge for everyone.

Client ID :

Vaccination Centre Name : _____	LHO Area : _____
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- Please read the attached Pandemic H1N1 (Swine Flu) Information
- Please answer the questions and sign the consent form below (using black pen and block capitals)
- **Parents / Guardians please note—students aged 16 years and older may sign their own consent form.**

First Name: _____	Surname: _____
Address: _____	
Postal Code/County: _____	PPS Number: _____
DOB: (dd/mm/yyyy) ____/____/____	AGE: _____ Male Female
Parent Name/ Contact Phone No. _____	

School/college: _____	Class/Year: _____
GP Name: _____	
Address: _____	Contact Number: _____

Are you /your daughter in the first 14 weeks of pregnancy?	Yes	No
Has the person getting vaccinated any serious illness?	Yes	No
If yes, please specify _____		
Have you /your child got any haematological/bleeding disorder?	Yes	No
Have you/ your child ever had a serious reaction (allergy) to any vaccine component e.g. Eggs, Formaldehyde, Gentamycin, Thiomersal?	Yes	No
Have you / your child a history of Guillian Bårre Syndrome?	Yes	No
Has the person being vaccinated previously received Swine Flu vaccine?	Yes	No

I have read and understand the fact sheet.
I CONSENT to be / for the above named child to be vaccinated with two doses of a Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 flu vaccine.
 Signature : _____
 (Self/Mother/Father/Legal Guardian)
 Circle Appropriate
 Date: / /

I have read and understand the fact sheet.
I REFUSE consent to be / for the above named child to be vaccinated with two doses of a Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 flu vaccine
 Signature: _____
 (Self/Mother/Father/Legal Guardian)
 Circle Appropriate
 Date: / /

Staff are aware of their obligations under the Data Protection Acts, 1988 and 2003. The information provided on this form will be used for the purposes of health care provision and provider payment purposes only.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Increased Medical Risk Yes <input type="checkbox"/>								Codes (Circle <u>all</u> that apply) a b c d e f g h i j k							
Date Given	Batch No.	Manufacturer	Dose Given	Site Given	Prescribed by Signature & MCRN	Vaccinator's Signature & MCRN/Nurse PIN		Pandemic Dose 1				Pandemic Dose 1			
Date Given	Batch No.	Manufacturer	Dose Given	Site Given	Prescribed by Signature & MCRN	Vaccinator's Signature & MCRN/Nurse PIN		Pandemic Dose 2				Pandemic Dose 2			

Not Vaccinated Reason not vaccinated code: (circle as appropriate) A B C D

Record Card Given : _____ Date Updated on IT System : / /