

Date: 29th September 2020

Tel : (028) 9536 1126
Web Site: www.publichealth.hscni.net

To: All Community Pharmacy Staff

Dear Colleague

Re: **Clinic Times for Seasonal Influenza (Flu) Vaccine for Community Pharmacy Staff**

I am writing to invite you to avail of the Seasonal Influenza (flu) vaccine free of charge for 2020/21. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of ensuring that all health & social care staff are protected against disease. While there is currently no vaccine against COVID-19, there is a vaccine against seasonal influenza and it is important that **all health & social care workers** have access to this vaccine. Details of flu clinics organised by occupational health in four of the five HSCTs are now available via the following link: <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2570.htm>
NB BHSCT flu clinic times are not yet available and will be added as soon as we receive them. Some of the Trust flu clinics are by appointment only this year so please read the details provided in the link before attending.

In addition to the Trust flu clinics the flu vaccine will also be accessible by all health & social care workers this year via **participating community pharmacies**. Details of participating pharmacies are also available via the same link <http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2570.htm>

Please note that an employee photo identification badge/or other proof of employment in a health or social care setting e.g. payslip, letter from employer on official letterhead or stamped authorisation form (attached) **plus** photographic proof of identification will be required.

This information should also be brought to the attention of any locum staff who are connected with your pharmacy.

It is very important that all health and social care staff are vaccinated against flu to protect vulnerable patients & help to maintain services. We are hoping to significantly improve the uptake rate of flu vaccination by healthcare workers this year. Please encourage your staff to take advantage of the opportunity to protect themselves and others against flu by getting their flu vaccination.

Thanks



Alison Quinn
Health Protection Nurse (Lead Nurse Immunisation/Vaccination)

Enc: Flyer for display in staff areas with proof of employment form on reverse

Improving Your Health and Wellbeing

Pharmacy Staff - Catch the Vaccine not the Flu!

Protect yourself, your family and your patients by getting your annual flu vaccine. It is available free of charge to community pharmacy healthcare staff through your local trust occupational health flu clinics and participating community pharmacies.

All staff working in community pharmacies will be eligible for the flu vaccine this year.

Details of Trust flu clinics in your area / participating community pharmacies are available on the BSO Website at the following links:

<http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2570.htm>

You will require either a staff photo identification badge /other proof of employment + photographic ID when attending for vaccination. The authorisation form stamped by employer can be used as proof of employment.

**Seasonal Flu Vaccination
COMMUNITY PHARMACY AUTHORISATION FORM**

Please complete for member(s) of the pharmacy workforce who are employed at the premises detailed below and are involved in the sale, dispensing or supply of medicines to the public.

NAME	POSITION/STAFF ROLE

Pharmacy Stamp:

Contractor Number:

Telephone:

Individuals or groups of staff without pharmacy ID should bring a completed copy of this form along when they attend for vaccination. If attending on separate days please bring a new form for each individual or group.

Full details of clinic location and times can be found on the BSO website under FPS General Pharmaceutical Services at the following link:

<http://www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2570.htm>

Additional copies of this form are available at the link above.