

Flu Protocol 2018/2019

Introduction

The Health Promotion Team and Community Learning Disability Team for Learning Disabilities in Sunderland have agreed to work in partnership with Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group to support the GP practices with difficult to reach, complex patients who may not ordinarily have their flu vaccine.

A separate action plan has been developed and implemented to support this across the city.

This protocol will simply outline the process and arrangements for obtaining the flu vaccine from the practice to administer to the patient and the documentation in relation to the administration of it.

1. The GP practice will contact IRS on 0303 123 1145 if they wish to make a referral for a patient to have their flu immunisation where it has not been possible to administer at the practice or patients home. A list of suggested reasonable adjustments is in the Appendix of this document.
2. The GP practice will ask if the patient is already known to the learning disability team, if they are IRS will simply email the allocated professional who will make the necessary arrangement’s to have the flu vaccine given by a trained nurse.
3. If the patient is not known to the community treatment team then IRS will open the referral and email Ashley Murphy and Michael Leadbitter who will coordinate the new referral and ensure it is allocated.
4. IRS will ask the GP practice a series of questions to check out that all reasonable adjustments have taken place first.
5. Once the learning disability nurse has been allocated to the patient, they will take responsibility for visiting the practice with the relevant documentation, also in the appendix of this document. This document will be completed to say they have collected the flu vaccine, with details of the batch number.
6. If the administration of the vaccine is successful the nurse will then electronically send the document back to the practice so the records can be updated to reflect the vaccine has been given. Equally if it has not been successful the practice will be informed and the vaccine returned or disposed of accordingly.
7. The practice will send us an electronic receipt stating the documentation has been received and that the patient’s record has been coded accordingly. Additionally the clinician will contact the practice via telephone to ensure this has happened within the same day to prevent the occurrence of a double vaccination.
8. The clinician will record on the patients RIO notes that they have received the flu vaccination. The RIO record should contain the batch number, expiry date, vaccination site and time of vaccination.
9. The clinician will assume capacity in relation to the acceptance of the flu vaccine. If capacity to understand the procedure is doubted by the clinician, they will make a best interest decision based on the patient’s presentation at the time of the appointment. If possible we will liaise at the time with other carers and professionals who will part of the decision making process.
10. The health promotion team are also offering drop in sessions at two of the local resource centres, they have actively sought to make family aware of the sessions in case they have any objections that they would like to discuss further prior to the vaccination going ahead, however the health promotion team are aware that families are not legally able to consent to the vaccine on behalf of the individual, nonetheless the health promotion team are keen to involve families and carers where possible.

The Role of the Health Promotion Team and Community Learning Disability Team.

1. The health promotion team are working with each practice across the city to help each practice to identify people with learning disabilities on their register who have not had the vaccine in the past or who have previously struggled to access their GP practice to have the vaccine administered.
2. Consent has been gained to share information between the GP practice and the health promotion team by means of the easy read letter that went out to all patients in July 2017.
3. If there is any doubt that a person may not have received the letter i.e. because they were under 18 or new to the area, the clinician will advise the practice they have a responsibility to ascertain consent from the patient to share information with us or determine if it is in their best interest. This will meet the requirements of the GDPR.
4. It may be that they can support them to visit the practice, explore their anxieties, help them to understand and if not they will ask the nurses within the community treatment team or health promotion team to administer the vaccine where possible.

Developed in 2016 in discussion with:

Chrissie Todd – Locality Practice Manager

Jackie Russell – Locality Practice Manager

Linda Reiling – Joint Specialist Mental Health and Learning Disability commissioner.

Amanda Hunter – Learning disability Community Nurse

Ashley Murphy – Primary and Secondary Health Facilitation Nurse.

Reviewed and updated in September 2017 by Ashley Murphy

Primary and Secondary Health Facilitation Nurse Specialist.

Reviewed and updated in September 2018 by Ashley Murphy and Michael Leadbitter - Primary and Secondary Liaison Nurse.

Appendix 1

Example of Reasonable adjustments to try before making referral for the flu vaccine to be given by NTW.

1. Is the issue environmental? Could the practice nurse go out to the person’s home to administer it?
2. Is there a person in the practice that the patient has a good relationship with who could attempt to administer it?
3. Is the patient well known to the practice, do you have information about the person their likes and dislikes, what they are interested in, what you could talk to them about as a means of distraction?
4. Have you contacted family members to see if they can support the patient to the practice?
5. Have you tried to use other forms of communication to help them understand why it is important, i.e. pictures and videos?
6. Have you attempted to use the nasal spray off label as a reasonable adjustment? This is indicated for people with a learning disability in the Public Health guidance where a needle would cause them great distress.
7. Have you contacted your identified health promoter for your practice to see if they can offer any additional support?

Appendix 2



Dear Dr……………………………………………..

I am writing to inform you that the following patient has received their Seasonal Influenza Vaccine / Pneumococcal Vaccine.

Name of patient:………………………………………………

NHS Number:………………………………………………….

D.O.B:…………………………………………………………..

Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (Split Version) Sanofi Pasteur

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Batch No./ Expiry Date | Vaccination Site | Date Given |
|  |  |  |

23- valent plain PPV (Pneumovax II) Sanofi Pasteur

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Batch No./ Expiry Date | Vaccination Site | Date Given |
|  |  |  |

Print Name:……………………………………………………………….

Signature:…………………………………………………………………

Date:………………………………………………………………………

