



- Please bring to the attention of all doctors -

Date: 04 December 2009 Contact telephone number: **8226-7177 (24 hours/7 days)**

Pandemic Flu Vaccine Approved for Children

In a media release 3 December 2009 the Australian Government has announced the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approval for registration of H1N1 vaccine for children aged 6 months to less than 10 years.

Children 6mths - <3 years

Panvax Junior® is available in single dose (7.5 micrograms in 0.25 ml) pre-filled syringes and is approved for use only in children 6 months – less than 3 years.

Children 6 months - < 3 yrs will require 2 doses 4 weeks apart.

Orders for Panvax Junior® can be placed on the updated order form distributed to all vaccine providers last week and also available on www.flu.sa.gov.au. Distribution of this vaccine will occur as soon as it becomes available which is expected sometime during the week beginning 7 December 2009.

Children >3 years to <10 years

H1N1 Influenza 09 vaccine available in multi dose vials and currently in use for all those 10 years and over is now approved for use in children older than 3 yrs of age.

Children 3 years to less than 10 years will require 2 doses (15 micrograms/0.5 ml) 4 weeks apart.

Children 10 years and over only require 1 dose (15 micrograms/0.5 ml).

Promotion of the program

The Commonwealth will promote the vaccination program for children through the print media during December and January. A key message through the promotional campaign is for all family members to get vaccinated during the holiday period before children go back to school. Providers are encouraged to provide the vaccine to everyone wishing to get vaccinated.

Provision of vaccination clinics

The H1N1 vaccine will be available through GP clinics and some local council clinics across South Australia.

Resources

A paediatric vaccine information sheet and schedule will be distributed by SA Health to all providers in the week beginning Monday 7 December 2009. An updated Patient Information Sheet and Product Information sheet will be distributed with the H1N1 vaccine and Panvax Junior. The Panvax Junior® Product Information (PI) sheet will also be available on www.csl.com.au. Please note the PI provides information on a 0.5ml (15ug) pre filled syringe; however this is not currently available.

An updated Standing Drug Order (SDO) that includes dosage information for children will be available on www.flu.sa.gov.au.

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Information contained within this advice should be treated as confidential and is for the intended recipient only.