



- Please bring to the attention of all doctors -

Date: (24 May 2010)

Contact telephone number: 8226-7177 (24 hours/7 days)

Availability of Seasonal Influenza Vaccine in the private market

South Australia has been experiencing a limited supply of the seasonal influenza vaccine in the private market.

Vaccine supplies

There will be 10,000 doses Fluvax[®] (CSL) released for the private market this week.

SA Health has been advised this morning that the influenza vaccine Vaxigrip[®] (Sanofi) will be available from around 7th June 2010 for the private market at a national level.

Large supplies of Intanza[®] (Sanofi) influenza vaccine are available in the private market. Please note the Intanza[®] vaccine has only been licensed by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) for individuals aged 18 to 59 years of age and is for intradermal administration only.

GPs are reminded to continue to write generic scripts for influenza vaccines to allow pharmacists to supply whatever brand of influenza vaccine they have available.

There are adequate supplies of influenza vaccine for the Government funded program for priority groups.

Continued suspension of seasonal influenza vaccination program for children aged 5 years and under

Medical practitioners are reminded that the seasonal influenza vaccine (first or second dose) should not be given to children aged 5 years and under. This is due to an ongoing investigation by the TGA and immunisation experts into the reported cases of fever and febrile convulsions.

Free pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine is available as an alternative to offer partial protection and can be given to anyone older than 6 months of age.

We urge everyone 6 years of age and over to consider having the influenza vaccination this year

Please contact the Communicable Disease Control Branch on 08 8226 7177 (24hours/7days) for any enquiries or advice.

Dr Ann Koehler – Director, Communicable Disease Control Branch

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