

Urgent Update for Immediate Action by GP practices & DCHS Community Nursing

Influenza 'Flu' Vaccine Administration to Housebound Patients on DCHS District/community Nursing Caseloads season 2019/20

Date:12/12/2019

Following discussions between the Local Medical Committee, DCHS and the CCG Medicines Management Team it has been agreed that DCHS nurses will administer influenza vaccine to housebound patients on their caseload using a **Patient Specific Direction (PSD)**.

This requires prescribers in GP practice to identify and assess patients eligibility for influenza vaccine and give an 'instruction' – either handwritten or electronic including authorisation in a patient's computer records (PSD) to DCHS nurses to administer a specific vaccine and alert the community/district nursing team.

DCHS nurses are responsible for collecting the vaccine(s) and 'PSD' list from GP surgery and administering the vaccine in a prompt manner. DCHS nurses are responsible for following standard administration process which includes checking consent, history of anaphylaxis to influenza vaccine or egg, less severe egg allergy (product specific) checking the patient is not suffering from acute severe febrile illness (minor infection is not a contra-indication) and that the patient has not been recently diagnosed with a bleeding disorder or started on anticoagulation (both caution IM administration).

If any Non -Medical Prescribers working in GP practices require support for this process please contact Marie Scouse Assistant Director of Nursing Primary Care on Marie.scouse@nhs.net

As flu season is upon us it is vital patient who have not yet received a vaccine are identified and treated promptly.

Thank you in anticipation of prompt action to this information