

**Re: Swine Flu Vaccine for people who work in the pharmacy sector.**  
**Please ignore this letter if you have already received the vaccine.**

November/December 2009

Dear Sir or Madam,

The HSE is working to offer a Swine Flu vaccine to everyone living in Ireland over the coming months. We have already started giving the vaccine to people with long-term illnesses, pregnant women and children under 5. In addition, we want all healthcare workers, which includes those working in the pharmacy sector to get vaccinated.

As a healthcare worker it is important that you get the vaccine because:

- you are more likely to come into contact with people who have flu
- you can easily pass pandemic flu to vulnerable patients before you even realise you are ill
- you can easily bring the infection home to your family before you realise you are ill

In order to get the vaccine, you should, in the first instance, contact your GP to find out if they are participating in the vaccination programme and if they have vaccine available. Many GPs are involved in the programme and whilst they targeted the “at risk” population at the start of the campaign, they have been advised to use remaining stocks of vaccine to vaccinate the under 5s, those 65 and over and healthcare workers.

If your GP is not involved or has no further stocks of vaccine we would like **you to make an appointment** to attend your local vaccine clinic. Full details of the clinics are available on our website, [www.swineflu.ie](http://www.swineflu.ie). You can make your appointment online for the next available date. You must have an appointment to attend your vaccine clinic. Please bring a copy of this letter along with your PPSN number with you when you attend for vaccination.

You will find information on Swine Flu vaccination for healthcare workers and the vaccine on [www.swineflu.ie](http://www.swineflu.ie).

Yours sincerely



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