

Some Useful notes on Non Registered HCSW and Immunisation and Vaccination Training

To be considered for foundation Immunisation & Vaccination training HCSW must have achieved education and training to **Level Three of the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF)4 or equivalent in England and Wales with at least 2 years' experience** as recommended in The National Minimum Standards and Core Curriculum for Immunisation Training of HCSW. that only HCSWs who have as a HCSW should be considered for training in vaccine administration. These Standards are intended to support and facilitate high quality, safe delivery of the influenza, shingles and/or pneumococcal vaccination programmes.

These useful documents will be good to read -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/464033/HCSW_Training_Standards_September_2015.pdf

And the competency tool will be helpful

<file:///C:/Users/rlric/Downloads/PDF-006943.pdf>

The training will ensure

- that their practice is safe and effective
 - give a high standard of care
 - be able to provide accurate and up to date information about the relevant diseases and vaccines to their patients
 - demonstrate competence in administration and recording of influenza, shingles and/or pneumococcal vaccinations
 - demonstrate competence in recognition and management of anaphylaxis and basic life support
 - demonstrate an understanding of appropriate management of adverse reactions
 - demonstrate an understanding of their role and its limitations
- be able to refer to a registered healthcare professional where further information is required for the patient's needs

Standards for Immunisation Training of HCSWs

A HCSW who administers immunisations must have completed relevant training and have been assessed as competent by a registered practitioner who is experienced in immunisation Mentorship, close supervision and support strategies are essential.

The registered healthcare professional (HCP)

The practitioner who delegates the role of immunisation must be on a relevant professional register for example the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) or the General Medical Council (GMC). **This delegating professional has the professional responsibility for ensuring the HCSW has met the necessary standards of competency National Minimum Standards**

and Core Curriculum for Immunisation Training of Healthcare Support Workers and undertaken the recommended training.

Any HCSW who immunises or has a role in immunisation should receive specific training and annual updates. Those new to immunisation should receive comprehensive immunisation training, preferably through a formal foundation course. It should follow a framework that encourages supervised practice and support and also enables robust assessment of competence.

HCSWs must demonstrate competence, knowledge and practical skills through assessment and practice as well as an understanding of the limitations of their role. If a HCSW is supporting the childhood influenza programme or administering intranasal influenza vaccine to a child, special consideration needs to be given in relation to consent, safeguarding and the safety and wellbeing of the child.

Duration and frequency of training and updates

The recommended minimum duration of foundation immunisation training for HCSWs who administer adult flu, pneumococcal and shingles vaccines is two days in order to achieve all the learning outcomes. Length of training for HCSWs who will only administer live attenuated influenza vaccine to children will depend on previous experience of working with children and whether additional sessions on safeguarding are necessary in addition to immunisation specific training. Training of HCSWs who have a role in immunisation but do not administer vaccines may be very specific to their role and therefore shorter in duration. **Annual updates must be provided.** To include all necessary information, these updates should be a minimum of half a day, although a full day may be required.

Access to national policies and updates

HCSWs with a role in immunisation should have access to the online Immunisation against Infectious Disease⁷ (the 'Green Book') and all updates of national influenza, shingles and pneumococcal vaccination policy including DH/PHE/NHS England.

Access to supervision

HCSWs actively involved in immunisation services must have an **identified supervisor and supervision from this person must be ongoing.** The supervisor must be a registered, **appropriately trained, experienced and knowledgeable practitioner in immunisation.** The supervisor should ensure the HCSW's immunisation practice meets national standards and reflects current national policy.

Supervised clinical practice helps ensure the integration of theoretical knowledge with clinical practice. **A period of supervised practice to allow acquisition and mentor observation of clinical skills and application of knowledge to practice when the practitioner is new to immunisation is therefore strongly recommended.**

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