

# **Advisory document to support the delivery of The Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine nasal spray suspension (LAIV) Patient Group Direction (PGD) in accordance with the National Influenza Immunisation programme 2023-24**

**We gratefully acknowledge UKHSA for their permission to use their LAIV Fluenz Tetra® PGD as a reference resource for NHS Wales, to be used alongside this associated advisory document.**

Individual Summaries of Product Characteristics (SmPCs) may differ in their licensed indications from official vaccination policy as specified in the Green Book and Welsh Policy.

On these occasions, Green Book recommendations should take precedence and provides the rationale for any off-label use. Practitioners using authorised PGDs should also be familiar with the relevant chapters of the Green Book, SmPCs and Welsh Policy, and be constantly alert to any subsequent recommendations from Public Health Wales and/or Welsh Government and other sources of medical information.

## **Prepared by: the Welsh Medicines Advice Service (WMAS)**

Any queries regarding the content of this advisory document should be addressed to: [welshmedicines.information@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:welshmedicines.information@wales.nhs.uk)

The relevant amendments, governance and sign off for any PGD is the responsibility of the authorising organisation in Wales.

**Operational from:** 01 September 2023

**Review date:** 01 July 2024

**Version number:** 1.1

## **Additional clinical conditions or situations to which this advisory document applies**

UKHSA Influenza vaccine (Fluenz Tetra®) PGD in accordance with the National Influenza Immunisation Programme 2023-24

UKHSA publications gateway number: GOV-14998

<b>Section 3. Characteristics of staff</b>	
<b>Additional requirements</b>	<p>Additionally, practitioners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ must have undertaken training appropriate to this PGD as required by local policy and health board standard operating procedures and in line with the flu training recommendations available at <a href="#">Immunisation training resources and events - Public Health Wales (nhs.wales)</a></li> </ul>
<b>Section 4. Clinical condition or situation to which this PGD applies</b>	
<b>Criteria for inclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Individuals are included for vaccination under this PGD if they are included in one or more of the groups that are set out in the Welsh Health Circulars for the 2023-24 season: <a href="#">WHC/2022/031</a> and <a href="#">WHC/2023/023</a> and any subsequent updates or other formal communication from Welsh Government or the local Health Board.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Children and adolescents from 2 years to under 18 years of age who are in the following clinical risk group categories:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Severe mental illness</li> <li>▪ Epilepsy</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Children and adolescents from 2 years to under 18 years of age living in care homes or other long-stay facilities, including children's hospices. This does not include young offender institutions, university halls of residence or boarding schools (except those in eligible school years, or eligible due to another factor).</li> <li>○ Children and adolescents from 2 years to under 18 years of age who are experiencing homelessness; including those sleeping rough, people in emergency accommodation and people recently homeless in supported accommodation.</li> <li>○ Adolescents under 18 years who work on a voluntary basis (are not paid for their time and effort) providing care on a frequent basis to one or more elderly, disabled or otherwise vulnerable person whose welfare would be at risk if the individual became ill. These individuals should be identified by a letter from their organisation, confirming their name and role in the organisation.</li> <li>○ Adolescents under 18 years who work on a voluntary basis (are not paid for their time and effort) in organisations which provide planned emergency first aid at organised public events. These individuals should be identified by a letter from their organisation, confirming their name, and role in the organisation. This category does not include individuals who are qualified to provide first aid in other circumstances.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ A National Protocol for LAIV will be provided by Welsh Government and be available at <a href="https://www.gov.wales/clinical-guidance-coronavirus">https://www.gov.wales/clinical-guidance-coronavirus</a></li> </ul>

## Section 5. Description of treatment

<b>Off-label use</b>	Whilst the Fluenz Tetra® SmPC does not recommend its use during pregnancy or breastfeeding, the <a href="#">UKHSA</a> have advised that there is no need to specifically ask about or test for pregnancy, or ask about breastfeeding, when offering LAIV to eligible girls, or to advise avoidance of pregnancy or breastfeeding in those who have been recently vaccinated.
<b>Supplies</b>	Advice and guidance on ordering flu vaccines for the 2023-24 season is detailed in <a href="#">WHC/2022/031</a> LAIV will be procured centrally and be available through Immform.
<b>Patient or carer advice/follow up</b>	Inform the individual or their carer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ it will take 14 days to provide protection against influenza</li> <li>➤ it does not protect against other respiratory viruses that often circulate at the same time during the flu season</li> </ul>

## References

- Welsh Government. Health circulars. Available from: <https://www.gov.wales/health-circulars> [accessed 19 July 2023]
- Welsh Government. The National Influenza Immunisation Programme 2023 to 2024 (WHC/2023/023) Published 22 June 2023. Available from: <https://www.gov.wales/health-circulars> [accessed 19 July 2023]
- Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) - Fluenz Tetra nasal spray suspension Influenza vaccine. Astra Zeneca UK Ltd. 23 May 2023. Available from: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc> [accessed 19 July 2023]
- UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA). Flu vaccination programme 2023 to 2024: information for healthcare practitioners. Updated 18 August 2023. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/flu-vaccination-programme-information-for-healthcare-practitioners/flu-vaccination-programme-2023-to-2024-information-for-healthcare-practitioners> [accessed 23 August 2023]