

Pharmacist Immuniser Authorisation

Practicum Guide & Skills Assessment Record

February 2016

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BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Introduction

A pharmacist must meet clinical practice requirements in order to become an Authorised Immuniser (AI) in Tasmania, pursuant to *Regulation 64(ca) of the Poisons Regulations 2008*. The information contained within this guide is designed as a resource for pharmacist immuniser-in-training and their preceptors and provides a record of the clinical immunisation practicum.

Requirements

A pharmacist immuniser-in-training must undertake specific supervised clinical practice in order to become an AI in Tasmania. During this clinical practice the pharmacist immuniser-in-training is required to conduct five influenza vaccination encounters under the supervision of a preceptor.

There must be no actual or perceived conflict of interest between the trainee and the preceptor.

Preceptor Role/Guide

A preceptor may be either:

- An experienced Authorised Nurse Immuniser (ANI) who is authorised to practice in Tasmania, in accordance with *Regulation 64(d)(i) of the Poisons Regulations 2008*. The ANI must have a minimum of 2 years recent clinical experience administering National Immunisation Program vaccines, to all age groups (infants, children and adults) and be working under a Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Approved Vaccination Program.
- A Pharmaceutical chemist who is authorised to practice in Tasmania, in accordance with *Regulation 64 (e) of the Poisons Regulations 2008*. The Pharmaceutical chemist must have a minimum of 2 years recent clinical experience administering influenza vaccines in a pharmacy setting and be working under a Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Approved Vaccination Program.
- A Medical Practitioner who has a minimum of two years recent and regular experience administering National Immunisation Program vaccines, to all age groups (infants, children and adults).

Preceptors will assess the pharmacist immuniser-in-training's clinical performance according to recommendations in the current edition of *The Australian Immunisation Handbook* (www.immunise.health.gov.au) and the relevant National and State immunisation schedules.

The assessment and judgement of competence in the clinical practice setting will include clinical observation, questioning, and review of documentation to assess skills, knowledge and attitudes.

Preceptors will observe and assess the pharmacist immuniser-in-training, provide appropriate feedback, and complete the Skills Assessment Record (Attachment 1). The preceptor will indicate if the pharmacist immuniser-in-training demonstrates overall competence in the provision of vaccinations according to the performance criteria in the essential immunisation practice standards, or whether the pharmacist immuniser-in-training requires additional practice to further develop their clinical knowledge and skills.

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The key areas include:

- Availability of an in-date Anaphylaxis Response Kit before each vaccination session
- Knowledge and maintenance of cold chain requirements during the immunisation sessions
- Completion of the pre-vaccination assessment and ensuring valid consent
- Selection of the appropriate vaccine(s)
- Following occupational health and safety guidelines for hygiene to minimise the risk of needle stick injury
- Correct administration of the vaccine(s)
- Providing immediate after care
- Knowledge of common adverse events following vaccination and their management
- Documentation including reporting of vaccinations to registers as appropriate

Pharmacist Immuniser-in-Training Responsibilities

The pharmacist immuniser-in-training will:

- Be familiar with the current National Immunisation Program (NIP) influenza schedule
- Adhere to vaccination procedures as outlined in the current *Australian Immunisation Handbook* (www.immunise.health.gov.au)
- Comply with current professional pharmacy guidelines relating to the provision of immunisation services
- Use principles of adult learning and demonstrate motivation to seek out and avail themselves of learning opportunities as they occur in the practice setting
- Demonstrate 'safe practice' by seeking advice from the Preceptor when required
- The Crown carries no liability in respect of pharmacist immuniser-in-training carrying out vaccinations; it is their own responsibility to ensure they have their own appropriate professional, public and other indemnity coverage.

Please forward the completed *Skills Assessment Record* (Attachment I) with your Initial Immunisation Authorisation Application to the Communicable Diseases Prevention Unit (CDPU).

ATTACHMENT 1: SKILLS ASSESSMENT RECORD

Student Name:		Date:	
Preceptor Name:		Practice Venue:	

Essential Immunisation Practice		Preceptor Assessment	
		Is the pharmacist competent? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	Comments
1. Ensure emergency equipment is available and operational, including an anaphylaxis response kit before each vaccination session	1.1 Protocols, Adrenaline 1:1000 (in date) and dose chart available, checked and operational emergency resuscitation equipment readily available	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	1.2 Is able to anticipate, discuss and distinguish between the signs and symptoms of a vasovagal event and anaphylaxis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Implement the National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5 when storing, handling or transporting vaccines	2.1 Is able to state correct vaccine temperature range of between +2°C to +8°C	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	2.2 Checks temperature log and administers vaccine that has been transported and stored at the correct cold chain temperature	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	2.3 Describes and complies with national guideline requirements for vaccine storage, handling and transportation and their importance in maximising the potency and efficacy of each vaccine	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	2.4 Explain actions taken to report and manage a cold chain breach or other events that may compromise vaccine integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Perform pre-vaccination screening to assess and determine the person's medical fitness for vaccination, contraindications or precautions to vaccination	3.1 Uses a pre-vaccination screening checklist tool and responds appropriately when a particular issue pertaining to the checklist is identified, including 'at risk' population groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Essential Immunisation Practice		Preceptor Assessment	
		Is the pharmacist competent? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	Comments
4. Obtain valid consent	4.1 The vaccinator obtains informed consent to immunise and communicates information effectively and in a culturally appropriate manner	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	4.2 Delivers clear, concise messages about the risks of vaccine-preventable diseases and the benefits and risks of vaccines	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	4.3 Advises the person to be vaccinated of the incidence of common adverse events that may occur following vaccination	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	4.4 Provides current and suitable health education resources as appropriate to support communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	4.5 Provides adequate time to answer questions and ensure client understanding of the vaccination process	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Follow standard occupational health and safety guidelines for hygiene and minimises the risk of needle-stick injury throughout the entire vaccination procedure	5.1 Performs hand hygiene as per the <i>Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare</i> (2010)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	5.2 Demonstrates awareness of minimising the risk of needle-stick injury and locates sharps containers safely away from children's reach	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Prepare the site and equipment and administer vaccines correctly	6.1 Checks each individual dose to see that the expiry date has not lapsed and that there is no particulate matter or colour change in the vaccine	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	6.2 Locate the correct injection site, uncovering the appropriate limb	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	6.3 Does not swab the skin (unless visibly dirty)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	6.4 Administers the vaccine using the correct site and route	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Essential Immunisation Practice		Preceptor Assessment	
		Is the pharmacist competent? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	Comments
7. Provide immediate after-care	7.1 Demonstrates safe disposal of used needles, syringes and vaccine vials/ampoules in accordance with the <i>Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare</i> (2010)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	7.2 Cover the puncture wound quickly with a dry cotton wool ball and hypoallergenic tape as needed	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	7.3 Use comfort and distraction measures to alleviate any distress and pain (pre, during and after vaccination)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. Anticipate, identify and manage common and adverse events following immunisation, as appropriate to the practice setting	8.1 Remind the vaccinated person about the common and rare adverse events following immunisation, what to expect, how to report and how to manage them in both verbal and written form; and provide contact advice in case of a significant adverse event occurring within 24 to 48 hours of the vaccination	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	8.2 Articulates the difference between a vasovagal episode and anaphylaxis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	8.3 Discusses the management of a vasovagal episode	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	8.4 Discusses the management of anaphylaxis	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Document information relevant to each immunisation encounter in accordance with practice policy	9.1 Explains rationale and demonstrates the importance of accurate documentation of vaccine type (name), dose, batch number, expiry date, injection site, date of administration and name of immuniser	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	9.2 Provides a record of vaccination and date to be retained by the person	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	9.3 Documents in the relevant clinical record (electronic or hard copy)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Advise and ensure the vaccinated person remains in the nearby area for a minimum of 15 minutes post vaccination and is aware of prompt reporting of any significant adverse event following immunisation	10.1 Advises and directs person to designated waiting area	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	10.2 Describes the procedure for documenting and reporting an AEFI in Tasmania	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Essential Immunisation Practice		Preceptor Assessment	
		Is the pharmacist competent? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	Comments
11. Act in accordance with legal and ethical standards in all aspects of immunisation practice	11.1 Maintains client confidentiality and privacy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	11.2 Identifies his/her own professional scope of practice and ethical principles relating to immunisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	11.3 Ensures health facility policies/protocols are followed	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. Completes required vaccination experience under supervision of nominated preceptor in a clinical practice setting	12.1 Completes administration of vaccines to a minimum of five client vaccination encounters	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Record details of vaccinations given by: _____ under the supervision of the preceptor: _____

Administers a minimum of **five client** vaccinations

Vaccinations given				
Vaccine name	Route	Site	Date administered	Age of recipient

In my judgement the pharmacist immuniser-in-training **DOES / DOES NOT** (*delete inapplicable term*) consistently demonstrates the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to deliver safe and competent immunisation practice according to the Essential Immunisation Practice standards in the Skills Assessment Record.

I declare that:

- ☐ I am a Medical Practitioner with a minimum of 2 years recent clinical experience administering National Immunisation Program vaccines, to all age groups (infants, children and adults)

OR

- ☐ I am an experienced Nurse Immuniser authorised to practice in Tasmania and have a minimum of 2 years recent clinical experience administering National Immunisation Program vaccines, to all age groups (infants, children and adults) working under a current DHHS Approved Vaccination Program

OR

- ☐ I am an experienced Pharmacist Immuniser authorised to practice in Tasmania and have a minimum of 2 years recent clinical experience administering influenza vaccines working under a current DHHS Approved Vaccination Program

Pharmacist Immuniser-in-Training name _____

Preceptor name _____

Preceptor signature _____

PIIT signature _____

Date _____