

## BULLETIN 4

### Introduction

This fourth Bulletin contains important information regarding a change to the number of doses of **PANDEMRIX** for children as agreed at the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

### Change to number of doses for children

Following the evaluation of new data from GSK the Irish Medicines Board has recommended that only **ONE** half adult dose (0.25ml) of **PANDEMRIX (GSK)** is now required for **ALL** children aged 6 months to 9 years (up to 10<sup>th</sup> birthday).

The only exceptions to this are children in this age group who are immunocompromised – these children require TWO half adult doses (0.25ml) at least three weeks apart.

PANDEMRIX vaccine		
Age	Dosage	Number of doses
6 months to 9 years (up to 10 <sup>th</sup> birthday)	0.25ml	1*
Adults and children aged 10 years and older	0.5ml	1*

\*except immunocompromised who still require two doses

### What about children aged 10-12 years (up to 13<sup>th</sup> birthday) who have already received one dose (0.25ml) of Pandemrix?

The IMB has recommended that these children do not require any further doses of Pandemrix (except those who are immunocompromised who require a second half adult (0.25ml) dose at least three weeks after the first dose)

There is no change to the dosage for **CELVAPAN**

Everyone vaccinated with **CELVAPAN** requires two doses (0.5ml) at least three weeks apart

## National Pandemic Vaccination Programme

Number of doses	PANDEMRIX	CELVAPAN
All those aged 6 months and over (including HCWs) who are <b>NOT immunocompromised</b> .	<b>1 dose</b>	2 doses
All those aged 6 months and over who <b>ARE immunocompromised</b> .	2 doses	2 doses
Pregnant women and up to 6 weeks post partum	1 dose	2 doses

### When should the second dose be given?

Priority for the second dose of pandemic vaccine at least THREE weeks after the first dose should be given to the following groups

	Priority Groups
<b>PANDEMRIX</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All those aged 6 months and over who are immunocompromised</li> </ul>
<b>CELVAPAN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children aged 6 months to 9 years in the medically at risk groups (up to 10<sup>th</sup> birthday)</li> <li>All those 10 years and over who are immunocompromised</li> <li>Pregnant women and up to 6 weeks post partum</li> <li>All those with cystic fibrosis</li> </ul>

### Pandemrix vaccine - Additional patient information leaflets and stickers

As more children are now being vaccinated with Pandemrix and up to 20 doses may be obtained from one vial we have had a number of requests for additional patient information leaflets (PILs) and patient record stickers (containing the batch number).

From next week

- additional PILs will now be delivered with each box of Pandemrix (either boxes of 20 or 500 doses)
- each box of **500 doses** of Pandemrix will contain 1000 patient record stickers. This requires the HSE National Cold Chain Service opening the box of Pandemrix, inserting 500 additional stickers and resealing the box. The reseals will contain the following text

*'Opened and resealed on behalf of the HSE to allow the inclusion of additional patient record stickers'*.

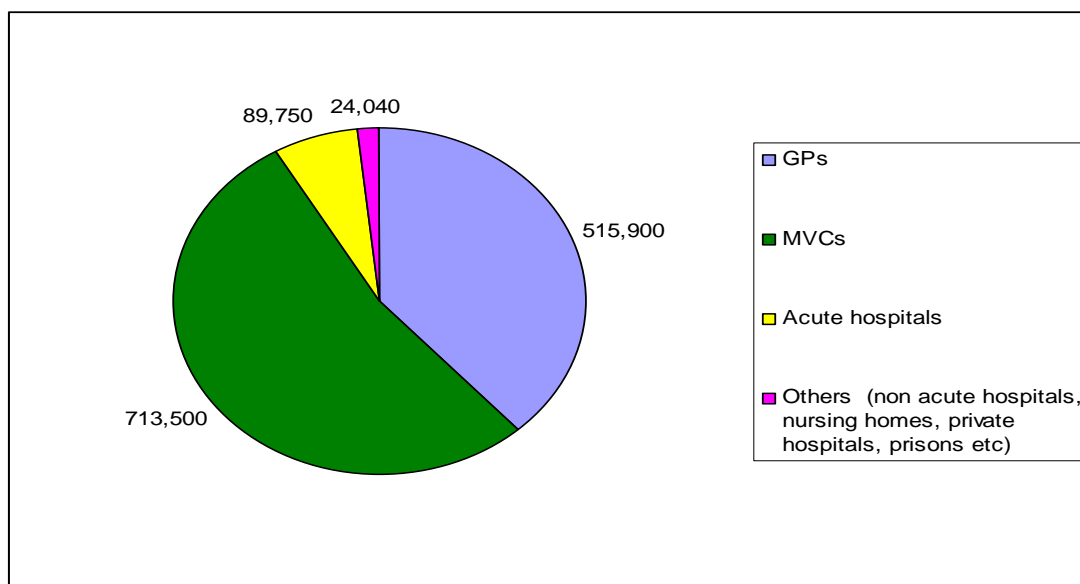
**These patient record stickers are specific to the box of Pandemrix that they come with.**

**Please make sure to discard any left over stickers from the box as soon as all the vials from the relevant box have been administered to minimise the potential for mix-up of stickers from different boxes/batch numbers.**

## National Pandemic Vaccination Programme

### Vaccine distribution

So far over 1.3 million doses of pandemic vaccine have been distributed (1 million doses of Pandemrix and 300,000 doses of Celvapan) to GPs, MVCs, hospitals and other sites as per pie chart below.



**To maximise vaccine usage all those requiring pandemic vaccine should be given PANDEMRIX as**

- **Most will only need one dose**
- **Children under 10 years of age only require ONE half adult dose**

### Vaccination returns

- Returns from Mass Vaccination Clinics /School Clinics need to be uploaded on the day of vaccination where possible
- GPs are asked to enter vaccination details on the PCRS system or send back manual returns to the PCRS as soon as possible after vaccinating.

### Adverse Reaction Reporting to Irish Medicines Board

All adverse reactions to vaccinations should be reported to the Irish Medicines Board. Report forms can be completed online or by downloading forms from

<http://www.imb.ie/EN/Medicines/Pandemic-H1N1-2009/ADR-Reporting.aspx>

**Please ensure that you clearly identify the vaccine involved when making a report**

## **National Pandemic Vaccination Programme**

### **National Immunisation Advisory Committee - Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 chapter**

The National Immunisation Advisory Committee has published an updated version of the new chapter of the Immunisation Guidelines Chapter 10a Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 which is available on Royal College of Physicians of Ireland website

<http://www.rcpi.ie/collegestructure/Pages/Immunisation%20Guidelines%20for%20Ireland%202008.aspx> and also on the National Immunisation website

[http://www.immunisation.ie/en/Downloads/NIACGuidelines/PDFFile\\_16263\\_en.pdf](http://www.immunisation.ie/en/Downloads/NIACGuidelines/PDFFile_16263_en.pdf)

### **More information**

The updated version of the FAQs is available at

<http://www.immunisation.ie/en/HealthcareProfessionals/PandemicCampaign2009/>