

To:

**Trust Medical Directors** - *for dissemination to all relevant professionals and organisations involved in the administration of the COVID 19 and Influenza vaccination programmes.*

**Integrated Care** – *for dissemination to GP practices and Community Pharmacies*

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22 July 2022

Dear Colleagues,

## **Education and Training for Vaccine Administration by Health Care Support Workers in Northern Ireland**

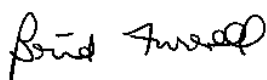
The Education and Training for Vaccine Administration by Health Care Support Workers (HSCWs) document has been developed by the Public Health Agency to be used alongside the Regional Framework and relevant National Protocol or supply only PGD. This will support the organisation and HCSWs on the process and training required to safely administer vaccinations. A competency framework is incorporated into the education document to facilitate learning and development and to assess the HSCW fitness to administer vaccines. The responsibility rests with the employer to ensure that their vaccinator workforce maintain their skills and knowledge on an ongoing basis. Employers should also ensure that all vaccinators have appropriate indemnity.

This document should be read alongside the Regional Framework for Vaccine Administration by Health Care Support Workers (HCSWs) in Northern Ireland (NI) launched in April 2022. This framework was developed to support Health and Social Care Trusts (HSCTs), Primary Care and Community Pharmacy to ensure the professional and legal aspects for Health Care Support Worker (HCSW) in vaccination administration are considered appropriately. This allows organisations to make informed decisions about the suitability of using HCSWs

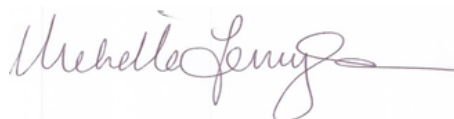
to administer defined vaccines (currently Covid-19 and influenza vaccine) under the National Protocol or supply only PGD(LAIV).

We would ask that this letter is shared with relevant professionals and organisations involved in the administration of the COVID 19 and Influenza vaccination programmes.

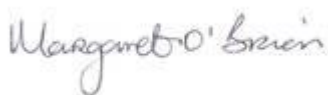
Yours sincerely



**Brid Farrell**  
**Deputy Director of Public Health**  
**Public Health Agency**



**PP Rodney Morton**  
**Director of Nursing, Midwifery &**  
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**Dr Margaret O'Brien**  
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**Kathryn Turner**  
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