

JR/ljt  
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Dear Parent/Carer

## H1N1 SWINE FLU VACCINATION OF CHILDREN IN HIGH RISK GROUPS

Children with chronic neurological conditions as well of those who are identified as being within 'at risk' groups are at particular risk of developing complications from swine flu. Therefore, it has been recommended that those children should have a Vaccination for H1N1 (Swine Flu) as a priority to ensure they are appropriately protected.

If you think your child falls into any of the categories below or have any concerns that they may have conditions not on the list but may be at risk we recommend that you contact your own G.P. as soon as possible to discuss whether your child may obtain the Vaccine from them.

Yours faithfully



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(Stand-in Chairman PCRFB)  
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### CLINICAL RISK GROUPS 2009/10

Clinical Risk Group	Examples (decision based on clinical judgement)
<b>Chronic respiratory disease and Asthma that requires continuous or repeated use of inhaled or systemic steroids or with previous exacerbations requiring hospital</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) including chronic bronchitis and emphysema; bronchiectasis, cystic fibrosis, interstitial lung fibrosis,</li></ul>

<b>admission</b>	<p>pneumoconiosis and bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD),</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children who have previously been admitted to hospital for lower respiratory tract disease</li> </ul>
<b>Chronic heart disease</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congenital heart disease</li> <li>• Hypertension with cardiac complications</li> <li>• Chronic heart failure</li> <li>• Individuals requiring regular medication and/or follow-up for ischaemic heart disease.</li> </ul>
<b>Chronic renal disease</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chronic renal failure</li> <li>• Nephrotic syndrome</li> <li>• Renal transplantation</li> </ul>
<b>Chronic liver disease</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cirrhosis</li> <li>• Biliary atresia</li> <li>• Chronic hepatitis</li> </ul>
<b>Chronic neurological disease</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stroke</li> <li>• Transient ischaemic attack (TIA)</li> </ul>
<b>Diabetes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type 1 diabetes</li> <li>• Type 2 diabetes requiring insulin or oral hypoglycaemic drugs</li> <li>• Diet controlled diabetes</li> </ul>
<b>Immunosuppression</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immunosuppression due to disease or treatment</li> <li>• Patients undergoing chemotherapy leading to immunosuppression</li> <li>• Asplenia or splenic dysfunction</li> <li>• HIV infection</li> <li>• Individuals treated with or likely to be treated with systemic steroids for more than a month at a dose equivalent to prednisolone at 20mgs or more per day (any age) or for children under 20kgs a dose of 1mg/kg/day.</li> <li>• Some immunocompromised patients may have a suboptimal immunological response to the vaccine.</li> </ul>