



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Thomas A. Farley, MD, MPH
Health Commissioner

August 11, 2017

Dear Philadelphia Pharmacist,

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) is happy to announce that we will be issuing a protocol for pharmacists in the City and County of Philadelphia to immunize their adult patients (≥ 19 years of age) when there is no provider order or prescription specific to a given patient. The vaccines covered by the protocol are:

- Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (IIV)
- Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV13)
- Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPSV)
- Zoster Vaccine (ZV)

Pharmacy and pharmacist requirements:

- Pharmacies must have an active Pennsylvania pharmacy license, and pharmacists must have an active Pennsylvania pharmacist license and an active Pennsylvania authorization to administer injectable immunizations;
- Pharmacists and pharmacy owners must sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the written protocol with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health;
- Pharmacists must complete the 3 adult immunization continuing education on-line modules offered by the Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association. These modules count toward the continuing education requirement for Pennsylvania pharmacists authorized to administer injectable immunizations under Pennsylvania law;
- Pharmacists must attend an orientation session in person to be held by the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (dates to be announced);
- The pharmacy must name the City of Philadelphia as an "Additional Insured" on its insurance policy and send a copy of the insurance certificate to the Risk Management division of the Philadelphia Law Department (address will be supplied).

We are in the process of developing orientation program content, and setting up procedures to handle implementation. Our goal is to launch the program in the fall, so please stay tuned for further information.

We wish to thank all the pharmacists who participated in the PDPH pharmacist survey last year that served as the basis for our development of the immunization protocol and MOU. We're grateful for your input, help and support as we develop this program. We will keep you posted on progress, and look forward to working with you. If you have questions about this initiative, please contact Claudia Siegel, MA, MPA, Director, Office of Health Information and Improvement (e-mail: claudia.siegel@phila.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caroline Johnson MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "MD" clearly visible at the end.

Caroline Johnson, MD
Acting Deputy Commissioner
Philadelphia Department of Public Health