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Immunization

Prerequisite Required

This procedure is only to be used by Paramedics or AEMTs who are trained and credentialed to perform immunization by the NH Bureau of EMS and the NH Medical Control Board.

INDICATIONS:

Pre-hospital providers may be called upon to provide certain immunizations as necessary to assist state health officials in the event of a public health crisis, or under the written order of a physician.

Non-Patient Specific Orders:

A non-patient specific order authorizes Paramedic or AEMT to administer specified immunizations for a specified period of time to an entire group of persons such as school children, employees, patients of a nursing home, etc.

- Some examples of non-patient specific orders are:
 - Administer influenza vaccine 0.5 ml IM to all incoming freshmen students at X College who are eligible per protocol.
 - Administer influenza vaccine 0.5 ml IM to all employees of X organization who request it and who are eligible by protocol.
 - Administer influenza vaccine 0.5 ml IM to all X town residents who request it and who are eligible by protocol.
 - Administer hepatitis B series to all employees of X organization eligible per protocol.

Immunizations

Many of the immunizations listed in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines fall under this protocol. The list of authorized immunizations differs for adults and children. For the purposes of immunizations, adults are persons who are 18 years of age or older; children are persons under 18 years of age.

Immunizations for adults:

- Acellular pertussis
- Diphtheria
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Inactivated polio
- Influenza
- Measles
- Meningococcus
- Mumps
- Pneumococcus
- Rubella
- Smallpox vaccine
- Tetanus
- Varicella

Immunizations for children:

- Acellular pertussis
- Diphtheria
- Haemophilus influenza Type b (hiB)
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Inactivated polio

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- Influenza
- Measles
- Meningococcus
- Mumps
- Pneumococcal Conjugate
- Rubella
- Tetanus
- Varicella

Note: The Medical Control Board may add immunizations in accordance with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

Administration of Immunizations

The non-patient specific standing order and protocol must be authorized by a physician.

Epidemics

Any Paramedic or AEMT may administer immunizations that are authorized by a non-patient specific standing order and protocol as part of an immunization program when the immunization program is instituted as a result of an epidemic declared by public health officials.

Protocol requirements

- Ensure that the potential immunization recipient is assessed for contraindications to immunizations.
- Inform each potential immunization recipient of the potential side effects and adverse reactions, orally and in writing, prior to immunization, and inform each potential immunization recipient, in writing, of the appropriate course of action in the event of an untoward or adverse event. Vaccine Information Statements (VIS), developed by the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC), United States Department of Health and Human Services are recommended for this use. <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/>
- Before the immunization is administered, obtain consent for the immunization from the potential recipient.
- In cases of minors and persons incapable of personally consenting to immunization consent may be gained by informing the legally responsible person of the potential side effects and adverse reactions in writing and obtaining a written consent prior to administering the immunization.
- Provide to each legally responsible immunization recipient a signed certificate of immunization noting the recipient's name, date of immunization, address, administering Paramedic or AEMT, immunizing agent, manufacturer and lot number.
- Have available on-site medications to treat anaphylaxis including, but not limited to, epinephrine and necessary needles and syringes.

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- Report all adverse immunization outcomes to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) using the appropriate form from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States Department of Health and Human Services. <https://vaers.hhs.gov/esub/index>
- Coordinate with program site managers to ensure that the record of all persons immunized includes: the non-patient specific standing order and protocol utilized, recipient's name, date, address of immunization site, immunization, manufacturer and lot number of administered vaccine(s), and recommendations for future immunizations.
- For the administration of the influenza vaccine to adults only it is acceptable to maintain a log of the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all adult patients immunized with the influenza vaccine under non-patient specific orders, in a dated file.
- Coordinate with program site managers to ensure that a record is kept of all potential recipients, noting those who declined immunization.