



4th November 2009 (Updated)

CIS Indemnity Arrangements in respect of Pandemic H1N1 2009 (Swine Flu) Vaccination Programme.

HSE Clinical Staff:

All HSE clinical staff required to participate in the pandemic flu vaccination programme are covered by the Clinical Indemnity Scheme (CIS) under the existing definition of “*professional medical services*”, as defined in the *National Treasury Management Agency (Delegation of Functions) Order, 2003*.

For the avoidance of any doubt, HSE clinical staff are fully covered by the CIS in respect of the provision of or failure to provide professional medical services to flu and non-flu patients alike.

General Practitioners:

By letter dated 8th October, 2009, jointly signed by the Chief Medical Officer and the HSE National Director of Population Health, the following was stated:

“The State is providing indemnity to General Practitioners for the administration of pandemic vaccine in accordance with the national programme. Accordingly, any adverse events as a consequence of the vaccine will be covered by such indemnity”.

The indemnity provided to vaccine manufacturers is “*to cover the unlikely event of serious adverse events arising from the vaccine*”.

Notwithstanding the State indemnity, referred to above, GPs are covered by their medical indemnity organisation/insurers in respect of clinical negligence issues, falling outwith State indemnity, which might arise.