



FLU INFORMATION: VACCINATIONS

REGULATIONS:

F Tag 334 discusses this. You can go to:

http://cms.hhs.gov/manuals/Downloads/som107ap_pp_guidelines_ltcf.pdf - page 433 to see the specific language of the regulation. Below needs to be in the chart for each vaccine.

- For the flu vaccine:
 - The resident's medical record includes documentation that indicates, at a minimum, the following: (A) That the resident or resident's legal representative was provided education regarding the benefits and potential side effects of influenza immunization; and (B) That the resident either received the influenza immunization or did not receive the influenza immunization due to medical contraindications or refusal.
- For the pneumo vaccine:
 - That the resident or resident's legal representative was provided education regarding the benefits and potential side effects of pneumococcal immunization; and (B) That the resident either received the pneumococcal immunization or did not receive the pneumococcal immunization due to medical contraindication or refusal. v. Exception. As an alternative, based on an assessment and practitioner recommendation, a second pneumococcal immunization may be given after 5 years following the first pneumococcal immunization, unless medically contraindicated or the resident or the resident's legal representative refuses the second immunization.

EDUCATION:

Attached are fact sheets for the education component. This needs to be shared with the families and residents receiving the vaccine. In the cover letter that is sent to the families informing them that it is time again for the vaccinations, include the Fact sheets and a notice stating that by a certain date (e.g., 2 weeks from the mailing) if you have not heard from them, their loved one will receive the vaccine unless medically contraindicated. Keep a copy of the information that was sent out in your infection control information, as well as a copy of the letter in the resident's chart.

COSTS:

- Part B of Medicare pays 100 percent for pneumococcal pneumonia vaccines (PPV) and influenza virus vaccines and their administration. Payment is made on a cost basis.
- Deductible and coinsurance do not apply. Part B of Medicare also covers the hepatitis B vaccine and its administration. Deductible and coinsurance apply.
- Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 18, "Preventive and Screening Services," contains instructions for simplified billing of Influenza virus vaccine and Pneumococcal Pneumonia vaccine by mass immunizers.
- For specifics on how to complete the bill go to:
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c18.pdf>

POST IMMUNIZATION:

Monitor for side effects and take the resident's temperature for 2-3 days following the injection. Be sure you have documented the education was given, the injection was given, and the monitoring for side effects.

STAFF:

Don't forget to include your staff in your immunization process. We need to be proactive in our approach. The costs of giving the staff the vaccine will be offset by staff not calling in and other staff having to cover with potential time and half hourly rate.

WEB SITES:

- CDC website: <http://www.flu.gov/>
- Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services:
http://www.dhss.mo.gov/BT_Response/SwineFlu09.html

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