

Section B Information Specific to Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccines



**Statement of Support from Dr Geraldine Shaw, Nursing and Midwifery Services Director,
Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services, HSE**

I am delighted to support Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives to administer COVID-19 vaccines under medicine protocol.

Nurses and midwives have a long tradition of supporting vaccination programmes, for example Schools Immunisation Programme, Seasonal Influenza Peer Vaccination Programme and Primary Childhood Immunisation Programme.

The national COVID-19 vaccination programme commenced in December 2020. Statutory Instruments No. 698 of 2020, No. 8 of 2021 and No. 43 of 2021 identify nurses and midwives as professions that can administer named COVID-19 vaccines, subject to approval of an education programme by the regulatory body concerned.

In order to administer the vaccines, registered nurses and registered midwives must be familiar with the most up to date version of the medicine protocols including the content of this section and have completed the *COVID-19 Vaccination Programme for Nurses and Midwives* on HSeLanD. Nurses and midwives must also have completed the Competency Assessment Form, also included in this section.

I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the nursing and midwifery professions to this very important national initiative.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Shaw'.

Signature

30th March 2021

Date

Professional Qualifications, Training, Experience and Competence Required

<p>Professional qualifications, training, experience and competence required prior to using this medicine protocol</p> <p>/</p> <p>Professional Qualifications:</p> <p>Training, Experience, Competence:</p>	<p>Registered nurse or registered midwife, maintained on the active register maintained by The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland.</p> <p>HSeLanD education programme titled <i>COVID-19 Vaccination Programme for Nurses and Midwives</i></p> <p>Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers within the last two years.</p> <p>Initial anaphylaxis programme (<i>National Anaphylaxis Education Programme for Health Care Professionals</i>) via HSeLanD followed by a one and a half hour classroom based skills workshop (replacing the previous four hour classroom based programme).</p> <p>Subsequent updates every two years via HSeLanD Anaphylaxis e-learning programme available at www.hse.ie.</p> <p>The nurse/midwife must complete the <i>Competency Assessment Form</i> to administer the COVID-19 Vaccines.</p> <p>COVAX IBM/Salesforce online programme https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/hsecovid19vms.html</p> <p>Recommended:</p> <p><i>Storing and Managing Vaccines</i> www.hseland.ie</p>
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Supporting Documents for Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives

An Bord Altranais (2007) *Guidance to Nurses and Midwives on Medication Management* Dublin: An Bord Altranais Health Service Executive (2019) *Directions for Nurses and Midwives for the Management of a Patient who Develops Anaphylaxis or Suspected Anaphylaxis incorporating Medicine Protocol for the Administration of Epinephrine (Adrenaline) Injection BP 1:1,000 by intramuscular injection by nurses and midwives for the management of a patient with anaphylaxis or suspected anaphylaxis*. Dublin: Health Service Executive

Government of Ireland (2020) *Statutory Instruments Number 698 of 2020*. Dublin: Stationery

Office Government of Ireland (2021) *Statutory Instruments Number 8 of 2021*. Dublin:

Stationery Office Government of Ireland (2021) *Statutory Instruments Number 43 of 2021*.

Dublin: Stationery Office

Health Service Executive (2010) *Healthcare Risk Waste Management Segregation Packaging and Storage Guidelines for healthcare Risk Waste*. Dublin: Health Service Executive.

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2021) *Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives*. Dublin: Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland available at: <http://www.nmbi.ie/Standards-Guidance/Code>.

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2022) *Practice Standards for Midwives*. Dublin: Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland available at: <http://www.nmbi.ie/Standards-Guidance/Midwives-Standards>.

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2015) *Recording Clinical Practice. Guidance to Nurses and Midwives*. Dublin: Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland available at: <http://www.nmbi.ie/Standards-Guidance/More-Standards-Guidance/Recording-Clinical-Practice>

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2015) *Scope of Nursing and Midwifery Practice Framework*. Dublin: Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland available at: <http://www.nmbi.ie/Standards-Guidance/Scope-of-Practice/Nursing-Practise-Scope-Definition>

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2020) *Guidance for Registered Nurses and Midwives on Medication Administration*. Dublin: Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland, available at: <http://www.nmbi.ie>

Competency Assessment Form



Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt

Building a
Better Health
Service



Office of the
Nursing & Midwifery
Services Director

NAME:

Self-Assessment of Competency to Administer COVID-19 Vaccine under Medicine Protocol

Domain of Practice	Critical Element	Competent Date/ Initials	Needs Practice Date/ Initials	Needs Theory Date/ Initials
1	I understand the role and function of medicine protocols in the context of NMBI guidelines in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Code of Professional & Ethical Conduct • Scope of Nursing and Midwifery Practice • Guidance to Nurses and Midwives on Medication Management • NIAC Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland. 			
2	I practice within my scope of practice to undertake administration of COVID-19 Vaccines under medicine protocol.			
3	I have undertaken the <i>COVID-19 Vaccination Programme for Nurses and Midwives</i> on HSeLanD.			
4	I have attended Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers within the last two years.			
5	I am competent in safe injection technique.			
6	I have attended an approved Anaphylaxis education programme and I am familiar with the current medicine protocol on the administration of Epinephrine by RNs/RMs.			
7	I can outline the inclusion/ exclusion criteria for administering COVID-19 Vaccine under the named medicine protocol.			
8	I can refer to/discuss those that are meeting the exclusion criteria to the relevant medical practitioner for an individual medical assessment as per medicine protocol.			
9	I am familiar with the documentation required to support implementation of the medicine protocol to ensure safe administration of COVID-19 Vaccine.			
10	In assessing suitability for vaccination I can undertake a clinical assessment of individuals within the scope of the medicine protocol.			
11	I can provide information regarding COVID-19 Vaccine, benefits and side effects to vaccine recipients.			
12	I am aware of the procedure for treatment and reporting of potential adverse reactions.			
13	I understand the procedure for reporting and documentation of medicine errors/ near misses.			
14	I dispose of all equipment and sharps in accordance with guidance for Healthcare Risk Waste (HSE, 2010).			

15	I am aware of and comply with the guidance on vaccine storage and handling including the maintenance of the cold chain in accordance with national and local policies.			
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16	<p>I have undertaken the following HSeLanD/online programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AMRIC Aseptic Technique www.hseland.ie ● AMRIC Hand Hygiene www.hseland.ie ● GDPR guidelines www.hseland.ie ● COVAX IBM/Salesforce online programme https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/hse-co-vid19vms.html 			
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I have sufficient theoretical knowledge and practice to undertake vaccination under this medicine protocol independently, and I acknowledge my responsibility to maintain my own competence in line with the Scope of Nursing and Midwifery Practice and current best evidence.

Registered Nurse/Midwife Signature: _____ Date: _____

If any deficits in theory and/or clinical practice are identified, the nurse/midwife must discuss with relevant Line Manager and implement appropriate action plan to achieve competency within an agreed time frame.

Action Plan (for use if needed to reach competencies

outlined) Action necessary to achieve competency:

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.. Date to be achieved:.....

Supporting evidence of measures taken to achieve competency:

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Nurse/Midwife signature:

Date:___

Line Manager signature

Date:___

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland Statement of Support 2021

