
Queensland Health

Enquiries to: QHIP
Telephone: 3328 9888
Facsimile: 3328 9720

Dear Doctor/Vaccine Service Provider

I would like to remind you of the recommendations for administration of influenza to children aged less than 5 years of age.

In 2010 an increased rate of febrile convulsions was detected in children less than 5 years of age who received *Fluvax*[®]. Consequently, in 2011, *Fluvax*[®] is **not** registered for use in children aged 6 months to less than 5 years of age and should not be administered to this age group.

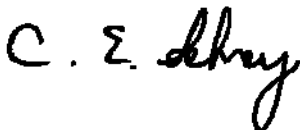
The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has recommended the use of *Influvac*[®] and *Vaxigrip*[®] in children between 6 months to less than 5 years of age.

Queensland Health has received reports of children less than 5 years of age who have received *Fluvax*[®]. A number of adverse reactions have been reported following the use of *Fluvax*[®] and one child experienced high fever and was hospitalised following vaccination with *Fluvax*[®].

Please ensure you are using a half dose (0.25mL) of either *Influvac*[®] and *Vaxigrip*[®] or use *Vaxigrip Junior*[®] for children aged between 6 months to less than 3 years.

The ATAGI statement including the rationale for these recommendations is available at <http://immunisation.health.gov.au/>

Yours sincerely



Dr Christine Selvey
Senior Director, Communicable Diseases Branch
29 / 4 / 2011