

16 September 2009

Important Notice

Dear Member

Pandemic (H1N1) Vaccination Program Rollout

As you may be aware, the Commonwealth Government intends to implement a vaccination program involving a Pandemic (H1N1) Influenza Vaccine (Panvax).

I am writing to confirm that your cover under the MDA National Insurance Professional Indemnity Insurance Policy will extend to the administration of this vaccine in accordance with the terms and conditions of the policy.

The Commonwealth Government has not yet determined the start date for the vaccination program however it is important that you are well informed about the proposed program and any changes thereafter. It is essential that:

- you obtain written consent from patients in accordance with the Department of Health and Ageing Pandemic (H1N1) Influenza Vaccine Consent Form; and
- you are aware of, and comply with, the guidelines for the use of multi-dose vials (MDVs).

Information about the program and MDVs is available on the Department of Health and Ageing website www.healthemergency.gov.au. Draft guidelines for the use of MDVs are also available on the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners' website www.racgp.org.au.

MDA National accepts that doctors have to work in areas of increased risk at times and has worked co-operatively with the Commonwealth Government to risk manage this significant public health issue. Further consultation continues based on the challenging issues surrounding this vaccination program and the need for you, as a MDA National Member, to receive early assurance of continued support and protection.

I encourage you to contact our Claims and Advisory Services Team on 1800 011 255 if you have any concerns or questions about this vaccination program.

Yours faithfully,



A/Prof. Julian Rait
President
MDA National
(on behalf of the MDA National Group*)

**The MDA National Group is made up of MDA National and MDA National Insurance.*

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