

Flu Injections

IM injection is a key clinical skill the students need to know and can be assessed in their OSCE exams. Students are taught IM flu injection during GP4. We recommend students should only give flu vaccines under direct supervision by their GP supervisor once they have been taught the skill.

In GP4 we advise step wise learning of IM flu injections:

- students are asked to do the mandatory annual e-lfh modules
- simulation/role play first e.g. using an orange
- IM injection under direct supervision e.g. joint clinic

Students often assist with IM flu vaccines during GP4, but as part of their learning, half a day is sufficient. GP4 does not teach covid vaccination or nasal flu vaccination.

In GP5 students are expect to complete their annual e-lfh module and, like all clinical skills, should be observed under direct supervision and signed off as competent in their CAPS logbook. Whilst we recommend students should continue to give flu vaccines under direct supervision, we also realise that many GP teachers do allow students to vaccinate under indirect supervision once they feel the student has sufficient competency. Students often assist with IM flu vaccines during GP5, in which case this should be in their normal hours and one session of I.M. flu vaccines should be sufficient for their learning.

Indemnity

The University does not indemnify students, but strongly advises medical students to obtain their own medical indemnity. Following the Secretary of State for Health's decision to introduce a state backed indemnity scheme, it has been confirmed GPs are covered for teaching skills for NHS activities. In the unlikely event of negligent acts by students on placement in Primary Care, This liability rests with CNSGP as long as they are providing NHS primary medical services. Please see excerpt below and full details are: Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice Archives - NHS Resolution "All providers of NHS primary medical services are covered under CNSGP, including out of hours providers. The scheme extends to all GPs and others working for general practice who are carrying out activities in connection with the delivery of primary medical services – including salaried GPs, locums, students and trainees, nurses, clinical pharmacists, agency workers and other practice staff." Cover is dependent upon adequate supervision, including making sure the student has a named GP supervisor at all times (especially when delegating training to other team members). It is worth mentioning that a negligence claim against a medical student is extremely unlikely to occur as we have not been able to identify a single historical case in the UK.

Paid Roles for Students

Some Practices are offering students an extra paid role for assisting with flu vaccines outside of GP4/5. However, this is separate from the University and Practices would need to take responsibility for ensuring the students have full training, indemnity, authorisation and supervision etc. Please note that the Medical School Council advises that students can take up to 12 hours of paid work/week, as long as it does not compromise learning.