



**British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology
Paediatric Committee**

2015 / 16 Influenza vaccine recommendations for children with egg allergy

During the 2015 / 16 influenza season, the nasal influenza vaccine (Fluenz Tetra) will be offered to children aged 2-4 years old and schoolchildren in years 1 and 2. Primary school-aged children in areas of the country that previously participated in the pilot programme last year will also be offered the vaccine. Schoolchildren will be offered the vaccine via a schools-based programme.

Children aged 2 -18 years with long term health conditions (e.g. asthma requiring previous hospital admission), should also be offered Fluenz Tetra. Children between 6 months and 2 years with long term health conditions will be offered the injected flu vaccine.

In all settings providing vaccination, facilities should be available and staff trained to recognise and treat anaphylaxis

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation have advised that **children with egg allergy can safely be vaccinated with Fluenz Tetra in any setting (including primary care and schools)**. The exception is for children who have previously required admission to an intensive care unit for severe anaphylaxis to egg; these children should be referred to a specialist for immunisation in hospital.

Fluenz Tetra should not be administered to a child with current or recent acute wheezing in the 72 hours preceding vaccination, or who have required oral steroids in the previous 2 weeks.

Inactivated (injected) influenza vaccines that are egg free or have an ovalbumin content < 0.12 µg/ml may be used safely in individuals with egg allergy, in primary care.

Further information can be found in the DoH Green Book, available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/427809/Green_Book_Chapter_19_v9_0_May_2015_.PDF