



# Immunisation Foundation Training

## Overview

### Intended Audience

The interprofessional foundation immunisation training is intended for health care workers with no prior knowledge or experience of immunisations, who will be administering vaccines within a primary care setting, including those in the childhood vaccination programme.

Our immunisation training programme is interprofessional to incorporate the many different healthcare workers who now participate in immunisation. Interprofessional education improves understanding of other professional roles and responsibilities, which in turn has a positive impact on patient outcomes. Therefore, this training will have both registered professionals and health care support workers (HCSWs) in attendance. **Please note - only HCSWs who have achieved or are currently undertaking education and training to Level 3 of the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) or equivalent with at least 2 years' experience as a HCSW will be considered eligible for training in vaccine administration.**

### Training Content

The theoretical aspects of the training contained in the prior learning and interactive session will take a **minimum of 2 days** and cover all **the core topics of immunisation** as recommended in [National Minimum Standards and Core Curriculum for Immunisation Training for Registered Healthcare Practitioners](#) as detailed below. The Minimum Standards for Health Care Support Workers is currently under review. Please refer to the above standards at this time.

- The aims of immunisation, national vaccine policy and schedules
- The immune response to vaccines and how vaccines work
- Vaccine preventable diseases
- The different types of vaccines, their composition and the indications and contraindications
- Current issues in immunisation
- Communicating with patients, parents and carers about vaccines
- Legal issues in immunisation
- Storage and handling of vaccines
- Correct administration of vaccines
- Anaphylaxis and adverse reactions
- Documentation, record keeping and reporting
- Strategies for optimising immunisation uptake
- The role of the HCSW as an immuniser (to include: role limitations, the role of others in immunisation)
- Support for the HCSW (eg. supervision, mentorship and reflection)



This training is a blended learning programme that consists of **three MANDATORY** components:

- 1) **Prior Learning** – this is an essential part of the training and attendees will be expected to draw upon this knowledge later in the interactive session.
  - **E-Learning** as specified in the Interprofessional Immunisation Foundation and Update Training Handbook
    - [Immunisation \(IMM\)](#) – all modules must be completed.
  - Anyone looking to deliver flu and covid-19 vaccines before September 2026 must complete the modules below:
    - [Flu Immunisation \(FLU\)](#)
    - [Core Knowledge for COVID-19 Vaccinators](#)
  - **Read** ‘The Green Book’ online immunisation against infectious disease [part 1: principle, practices and procedures](#).
  - **Watch** the [Immunology for Immunisers animations](#)
  - **Watch** the [core topics of immunisation- training video](#) and complete the [‘core topics of immunisation training video worksheet’](#).

It is expected employers allow attendees a **minimum of 1 ½ days to complete the pre-work** outlined above as this is an integral part of this training, for which knowledge and understanding will be assessed during the interactive session.

- 2) **Interactive Session (virtual/in person)** – this session explores and builds upon the content covered in the prior learning. Attendees will be expected to participate in quizzes, case study and scenario discussions with peers. *Registered professionals will attend a slightly longer session with HCSWs leaving approx. 60 mins earlier.*
- 3) **Competency sign off** – On completion of the prior learning and interactive session attendees will be required to have their competency assessed in practice by an appropriate supervisor/assessor. More information and links to competency documents are included within the immunisation foundations training workbook.

**If you have any questions regarding this training, please contact us via the following email [kernowhealthcic.workforce@nhs.net](mailto:kernowhealthcic.workforce@nhs.net)**