

SEATTLE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION

INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Which vaccines do you provide?

Seattle Visiting Nurse Association (SVNA) provides the standard **Quadrivalent (four strains) vaccine**. The nurses carry a small amount of **Thimerosal-Free (preservative free) vaccine** which we offer to pregnant women as required by WA State regulations. The nurse may accommodate a request by non-pregnant participants for the Thimerosal-Free vaccine if there are enough doses available at the time of the clinic. SVNA generally gives the standard Trivalent vaccine to all non-pregnant participants unless requested otherwise. If you wish for your participants to receive the Quadrivalent or the Thimerosal-Free vaccine, please request it at least 10 days in advance of the clinic.

SVNA **does not offer** the high dose vaccine for those over 65 years old, flu mist (nasal spray), or pneumonia vaccine.

What are the payment options?

1. **Bill insurance** - SVNA can bill directly for nearly all major insurance plans except for Cigna and Provider One – a Medicaid Fee for Service Plan - unless the plan is tied to an Apple Health Plan. The insurance information will be provided by the participant on the Patient Consent Form. We recommend that the participant bring the insurance card to the clinic. **We must have the member ID number to bill insurances.**
2. **Bill employer** - If the employer wishes to pay for any of the employees' flu shots, please note the name of the employer on the Consent Form in the space indicated. We will email an invoice to the contact after the clinic.
3. **Pay cash/check** - If a participant is uninsured or if a plan is one we do not bill (Cigna or Provider One), the participant may pay in cash or by check at the time the vaccination is given. We do not take credit cards. The standard Quadrivalent is \$40 per shot and Thimerosal Free is \$42 per shot.

What are the needs for the set-up and flow of the flu shot clinic?

1. For each nurse, please provide two chairs and a table for set-up of the clinic. We do not provide privacy screens.
2. If possible, please provide space (away from the clinic table) to display various documents (e.g. Privacy Policy, Vaccine Information Statement, extra Patient Consent Forms).
3. SVNA will provide various documents via email attachment in advance of the clinic. It is most helpful to have the participants fill out the Patient Consent Form in advance as it really improves the flow of the clinic. The participant must give the completed Patient Consent Form to the nurse at the time of the vaccination.
4. If a participant has never had a flu shot before and is receiving a flu shot for the very first time, please know that we will need to observe the participant for 15 minutes after the shot is given. For that reason, we ask that, if possible, those participants receive their injections toward the beginning of the clinic but definitely not at the end of the clinic.

Can we schedule the times for the participants to receive the flu shots? If so, how should it be done?

SVNA nurses provide approximately 20-25 shots per hour per nurse. If you choose to schedule the times for the flu shots, we recommend that you plan for 5-6 flu shots every 15 minutes.

Can others outside of the organization attend the flu shot clinic?

Yes. Organizations may want to invite family members or others to the clinics for flu shots which would be subject to the organizations' own policies regarding access by non-employees. SVNA is licensed to provide flu shots to people four years old and older. If the invited people have a different insurance than the company plan, we will bill the insurance if it is one of the approved insurances (e.g. not Cigna or ProviderOne). We will bill Cigna only if there is an out-of-network allowance by Cigna which needs to be confirmed by the employer in advance of the clinic.

Is there a minimum number of participants needed to have a flu shot clinic?

While we do not have a strict limit, we prefer at least 20 participants per clinic. If you do not have that many, we recommend that you open your clinic to others (e.g. family members); partner with a nearby business or organization to share a clinic site; and really market the event.

Will you give children a flu shot?

SVNA is licensed to provide influenza vaccinations to people four years old and older. For children 17 years old and younger, the parent or legal guardian must print his/her name and sign the Patient Consent Form in the spaces indicated. The parent or legal guardian is not required to accompany the child if the Consent Form is signed.

Please note: Children ages 6 months through 8 years should receive another dose 4 weeks or more after receiving the first dose if they are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time; if their first-time seasonal influenza vaccination was in the preceding season and they received only one dose; or if they did not receive at least one dose of the monovalent H1N1 vaccine in the 2009-2010 season.

Can you provide verification of the flu shot given?

On request by the participant, a verification can be provided to the participant on-site after the shot is given. If a participant would like a verification after the end of the clinic, he/she should email SVNA at info@seattlevna.com and request it. We will email the verification to the participant who requested it. Due to privacy policies, we do not provide the verification of any or all employees to the employer unless needed for billing purposes. If the employer otherwise requests verification of the employees' flu shots, we recommend that the participant asks for the verification and, upon receipt, provides it to the employer.

What time will the nurses arrive?

The nurses will arrive 15-30 minutes in advance of the start time of the clinic. They will need access to the room to set up the clinic at least 15 minutes prior to the start time of the clinic and will need 15 minutes to pack up the clinic at the end of the clinic time.

If you have parking, location or other access information that would be helpful for the nurses, please let us know as soon as possible. It is very important for the nurses to have detailed instructions regarding the location of your clinic, parking instructions, and/or parking garage location. This information will be greatly appreciated!