

## **Sample Standing Orders Policy**

### **Standing Order Policy for Provision of Influenza and Pneumococcal Vaccines - (Sample)**

Recognizing the major impact and mortality of both influenza and pneumococcal disease on residents of long-term care facilities and the effectiveness of vaccines for reducing health care costs and in preventing illness, hospitalization, and death, our facility has adopted the following policy statement. The policy is based on three principles:

- 1. All residents, staff, and volunteers of our facility, regardless of age and medical condition, should receive the influenza vaccine annually unless there is a documented contraindication.*
- 2. All residents, regardless of age and medical condition, should receive the pneumococcal vaccine at least once unless there is a documented contraindication.*
- 3. These vaccines may be administered by any appropriately qualified personnel who are following our facility protocol without the need for an individual physician evaluation or order.*

#### **Admission Policy:**

All residents admitted to our facility will be screened to determine if they are current on adult immunizations. Documentation of the patient's immunization status will be maintained in the medical record. Consent for annual vaccination should be obtained from the patient or a family member at the time of admission or anytime afterwards and documented in the medical record.

Beginning each September and going through March, any resident admitted to our facility will be offered the influenza vaccine unless there is documentation of previous immunization for that year or the patient has a documented contraindication.

Pneumococcal immunization status of all residents will be determined on admission regardless of date. Vaccination will be offered to all residents who cannot provide documentation of previous vaccination. Those who are unsure or do not know of their vaccination status will be immunized.

#### **Annual Review:**

The immunization records of all residents in our facility will be reviewed in September of each year. All residents will be offered the influenza vaccination unless there is a documented contraindication.

#### **Staff Immunization:**

Beginning each September and going through March, all staff and volunteers working in our facility will be offered the influenza vaccine unless there is documentation of previous immunization for that year or there is a documented contraindication.

#### **Administration:**

These vaccines may be administered by any appropriately qualified personnel who are following our facility protocol without the need for an individual physician evaluation or order. All immunizations will be documented in the medical record.