



Model Plan: Reporting Adverse Events Following Influenza Vaccination

School Located Vaccine Clinic (SLVC) staff should report any vaccine adverse events occurring in the SLVC setting to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).

Background

VAERS, administered by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is a safety surveillance program that collects information about adverse events (possible side effects) that occur after the administration of vaccines licensed for use in the US.

- Each report provides valuable information that is added to the VAERS database that supplies the information needed for evaluation of vaccine safety.
- Anyone can file a VAERS report; including health care providers, vaccine recipients and parents or guardians.
- Vaccine recipients and parents/guardians should consult their health care provider if they suspect an adverse event associated with the vaccine.
- FDA and CDC do not provide individual medical treatment, advice, or diagnosis.

What can be reported to VAERS?

- Report any clinically significant medical event that occurs after vaccination, even if you are not sure whether the vaccine caused the adverse event.
- The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act requires health care providers to report any adverse event listed by the vaccine manufacturer as a contraindication to receive additional doses of the vaccine and any adverse event listed in the "[VAERS Table of Reportable Events Following Vaccination](#)" that occurs within the specified time period after vaccination.

How to report to VAERS:

- **Anyone may report** but preferably the SLVC Vaccinator or Clinic Authority should complete the VAERS report if the event occurs in the SLVC setting.
- Parents and adults vaccinated in the SLVC setting should be instructed to contact their healthcare provider if they are experiencing a possible vaccine associated adverse event after leaving the SLVC.
 - Download the [VAERS Form](#) (PDF-98.5 KB).
 - Request a VAERS Form by sending e-mail to info@vaers.org, by calling (800) 822-7967, or by faxing a request to (877) 721-0366.
 - Before you begin review the [Instructions for Completing the VAERS Paper Form](#).
 - Fax a completed VAERS Form to (877) 721-0366.
 - Mail a completed VAERS Form to VAERS, P.O. Box 1100, Rockville, MD 20849-1100. A pre-paid postage stamp is included on the back of the form.
 - Federal CDC will send you a confirmation after the report is received.

If you have additional questions on VAERS Reporting call Maine Immunization Program at (800) 867-4775