

Question on Notice
No. 446
Asked on 3 June 2014

MRS SCOTT asked the Minister for Health (MR SPRINGBORG)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland Pharmacist Immunisation Pilot (QPIP)—

- (1) Have participating community pharmacists received accredited training to manage adverse vaccination events?
- (2) Is the vaccine used in this trial the safest available for the age range of patients in this pilot?
- (3) How is this trial funded?
- (4) Will there be an independent evaluation of this trial that compares patient safety and quality of care with the services previously provided by nurse practitioners in community pharmacies?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Woodridge for her question.

- (1) Any pharmacists participating in the program must have undertaken a course receiving the following Australian recognised qualifications:
 - Cardiopulmonary resuscitation • Perform CPR: HLTCPR211A
 - First aid • Apply First Aid: HLTF311A (Includes CPR)
 - Anaphylaxis • Emergency Management of Anaphylaxis: 22099VIC.
- (2) The trial offers vaccination to adult patients who are not eligible for the free vaccine. All of the available influenza vaccines are registered on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) and safe for use in adults.
- (3) Immunisation recipients pay for their own vaccines. The trial itself is being conducted by the Queensland branches of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia and the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, and evaluated by Queensland University of Technology and James Cook University. The Department of Health is not funding or contributing any resources to the trial.
- (4) The universities will be conducting an evaluation as part of the trial. The evaluation plan was approved by two institutional human research ethics committees. The study was specifically designed to enable comparison with services provided by nurse practitioners in community pharmacies — both in the previous year and the current year. The trial is being conducted with academic rigour, and it is anticipated that the results of the trial will be subject to peer review through publication and presentation.