



## **Latest Sanofi Pasteur influenza vaccine shipment arrives in Australia**

*Sanofi Pasteur confirms that it is drawing on its global supply chain to plug the influenza vaccine gap in Australia.*

Sydney, Australia, 31 May 2018 – Sanofi Pasteur today confirmed that its latest shipment of additional influenza vaccines had arrived in Australia as part of the company’s ongoing global push to plug the local influenza vaccine gap.

This latest shipment includes 150,000 vaccines suitable for people aged 3 years to 65 years.

It’s the latest shipment in a number that Sanofi Pasteur has secured over recent weeks to help meet the immediate ongoing demand from Australians wanting to be immunised against influenza.

Russell Jacobson, General Manager Sanofi Pasteur Australia, said Sanofi Pasteur has now been able to provide more than a million more doses than originally planned for Australia to help reduce influenza vaccine wait times. Those vaccines have been distributed via the National Immunisation Program, state based programs and the private market.

“With early demand for influenza vaccines so high we have been working hard to meet new supply requests from government,” he said.

“Our Australian team has been working across our global supply chain to identify, source and secure as many additional influenza vaccines as possible.”

The Hon Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health, said, “I want to thank Sanofi for their support in delivering an additional 600,000 doses of Fluzone High Dose and FluQuadri through the National Immunisation Program.

“It’s great news that a record number of Australians have already received the influenza vaccine this year and these additional doses will ensure many more are also protected,” the Minister said.

Mr Jacobson added that a country the size of Australia needs to be supported by a cohort of suppliers with reach across global vaccine markets if it’s to continue to successfully meet the needs of people wanting to be immunised.

“Influenza vaccines can’t be manufactured overnight. The process takes months and that means it’s critical that countries like Australia are able to draw on global supply to quickly fill any gaps in demand.”

“By reaching into our global supply chain we were able to start shipping the additional vaccines more than four weeks ago. This latest shipment is just one of a number we have secured. It won’t be the last.”

Given the strong demand for any newly arriving vaccines Sanofi Pasteur is working closely with Federal and State Health Departments to determine the most appropriate distribution.

Sanofi Pasteur currently supplies three influenza vaccines in Australia: FluQuadri Junior (6-35 months), FluQuadri (3 years and older) and Fluzone High Dose (over 65 years).



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## About influenza

Influenza (flu) is transmitted from person to person during coughing or sneezing, or by direct contact with respiratory secretions. Flu virus infection causes a wide range of disease, from no or minimal symptoms, to respiratory illness, and can lead to complications including viral or secondary bacterial pneumonia. In the worst case scenario this can lead to death.

Severe disease is more likely in the elderly, those with chronic (long-term) conditions, those that are pregnant and smokers. During an outbreak of a new influenza virus or 'pandemic', severe flu can affect otherwise healthy young adults.

In adults, the onset of illness due to flu is often quick, usually after a development period of 1 to 3 days. Symptoms include malaise, fever, chills, headache, loss of appetite and muscle pain. These symptoms may be accompanied by a cough, runny nose and sneezing.

Symptoms in infants and children are similar to those in adults. However, temperatures may be higher in children.

## About Sanofi:

Sanofi is dedicated to supporting people through their health challenges. We are a global biopharmaceutical company focused on human health. We prevent illness with vaccines, provide innovative treatments to fight pain and ease suffering. We stand by the few who suffer from rare diseases and the millions with long-term chronic conditions.

With more than 100,000 people in 100 countries, Sanofi is transforming scientific innovation into healthcare solutions around the globe.

Sanofi, Empowering Life