Dear Colleagues

Collection of Immunisation and Vaccination Data

I am writing to you regarding immunisation and vaccination data collected by Public Health England (PHE) via the ImmForm system, to inform you that NHS England would also like to use this existing data collection, solely for public health purposes to monitor vaccine uptake for the protection of public health.

ImmForm is used by PHE to collect a range of immunisation and vaccination data delivered by General Practice to enable the monitoring and reporting of uptake and coverage, in particular such as the flu data for children, over 65 years and at risk population. The data is automatically extracted from GP Clinical Systems by GP System Providers where practices have consented, and supplied to PHE to enable them to meet their statutory Public Health functions. All of the data submitted to Immform from the GP practices are summary data (i.e. counts of patients’ eligible for or having vaccines). No patient level data is extracted. This data is supplied by GP System Providers on the understanding that practice identifiable data is not subsequently used for any other functions and is not shared with third parties, which therefore restricts any direct sharing of practice level information by PHE with NHS England as the commissioner of General Practice.

This has necessitated NHS England duplicating PHE effort to collect the same or similar information from practices for the same public health purpose. In order to reduce the burden of data collection from general practice, NHS England proposes they access and utilise data already collected via the PHE ImmForm data collection arrangements to monitor vaccine uptake and support commissioning intentions. Practice identifiable data will not be published or used for payments; it will only be used for monitoring and improving uptake rates.
There should be no additional burden to GP practices as a result of this change where ImmForm is in use. This approach will prevent the need to develop a new parallel system in addition to the current PHE commissioned data collection. For practices that do not currently enable data collation through ImmForm, there will be a requirement to provide the data manually to their local NHS England commissioning team.

A specification of the data collected via PHE ImmForm is attached as an annex to this letter.

Yours sincerely

Alex Morton
Director of Commissioning System Change & Public Health Commissioning

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Annex – Data collected via ImmForm:

- Child Flu Vaccine Uptake - Primary School Delivery (Year 1 and 2)
- Child Flu Vaccine Uptake Pilot - Primary School Delivery (Year 1-6)
- Child Flu Vaccine Uptake - Pharmacy/GP Delivery (Year 1 and 2)
- HPV Vaccine Uptake Campaign - Annual Survey
- MenB Vaccine Uptake Collection
- MenACWY Vaccine Uptake Collection
- MMR Catch-up Campaign (GP Patients)
- Prenatal Pertussis Vaccine Uptake - Sentinel Collection
- Pneumococcal (PPV) Sentinel Vaccine Campaign
- Rotavirus Sentinel Vaccine Campaign
- Seasonal Flu Vaccine Uptake (GP Patients) - monthly
- Seasonal Flu Vaccine Uptake (GP) - weekly
- Shingles Vaccine Uptake Monthly