December 2023

**EAST MIDLANDS SCREENING AND IMMUNISATION BULLETIN**

**PLEASE CASCADE TO ALL relevant STAFF, INCLUDING GPS, PRACTICE NURSES, ADMIN AND RECEPTION STAFF**

# **screening and immunisation team**

The East Midlands Screening and Immunisation Team (SIT) cover all counties in the East Midlands region. Please see attached organogram for details:

# **Immunisation**

## gENERAL iMMUNISATION

**Cold chain management -** please see attached vaccine incident guidance which is helpful to use in the event of a cold chain incident. [Vaccine incident guidance: Responding to errors in vaccine storage, handling, and administration (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1088780/UKHSA-vaccine-incident-guidance-6-july-2022.pdf). Appendix’s A and B on pages 42-44 are particularly useful.

When a cold chain error occurs, **prior** to disposing of any vaccines the SIT team should be informed via the generic inbox and stability information of all vaccines involved in the incident should be sought:

* LLR and Northamptonshire - stability information can be sought from the LRI on [medicines.info@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:medicines.info@uhl-tr.nhs.uk) or Tel: 0116 2586491 as well as individual manufactures.
* Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, and Nottinghamshire – individual manufacturers should be contacted.

Please ensure any vaccine wastage is reported on Immform website at [Intranet Portal - Logon (phe.gov.uk)](https://portal.immform.phe.gov.uk/Logon.aspx?returnurl=%2fHome.aspx)

## New JCVI GuidAnce

The JCVI have recently released new guidance around some new vaccine programmes. Please be aware JCVI advice still requires policy sign off and then a process of implementation by NHSE. More communications will follow regarding these.

* JCVI advice on the use of meningococcal B vaccination for the prevention of gonorrhoea - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
* [JCVI statement on mpox vaccination as a routine programme - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mpox-vaccination-programme-jcvi-advice-10-november/jcvi-statement-on-mpox-vaccination-as-a-routine-programme)
* [JCVI statement on a childhood varicella (chickenpox) vaccination programme - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childhood-varicella-vaccination-programme-jcvi-advice-14-november-2023/jcvi-statement-on-a-childhood-varicella-chickenpox-vaccination-programme)

## Nasal Flu – updated expiry dates

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ACTION: Fluenz® Tetra - updated expiry dates for specific batches of Fluenz® Tetra and product recall.**

Following routine stability testing, it has become necessary for AstraZeneca to **reduce the shelf life** of 6 batches of Fluenz® Tetra issued between 30 August and 13 October 2023 by 5 days.

The expiry dates for these batches have subsequently been updated as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Batch Number | Printed Expiry Date | Amended Expiry Date |
| TH2127 | 28-Dec-2023 | 23-Dec-2023 |
| TH2127B | 28-Dec-2023 | 23-Dec-2023 |
| TH3110 | 01-Jan-2024 | 28-Dec-2023 |
| TH3110B | 02-Jan-2024 | 29-Dec-2023 |
| TJ2290B | 10-Jan-2024 | 05-Jan-2024 |
| TJ2290 | 11-Jan-2024 | 06-Jan-2024 |

Except for the amended expiry date, there are no other changes made to the product information.

AstraZeneca assure full effectiveness until the amended expiry date, and the quality, safety and efficacy of Fluenz® Tetra is not affected. Parents/care givers do not need to be concerned about their child’s vaccination.

In agreement with the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), AZ will also undertake a medicines recall exercise for these batches as a precautionary measure.

If you have received any vaccine from these batches, please ensure where possible, that they are fully administered by the amended expiry dates listed above. Any remaining stock should thereafter be quarantined and returned to AstraZeneca. To arrange a stock return in Great Britain, please contact Movianto customer care on 01234 587 207 or [Moviantouk.NHSCC@movianto.com](mailto:Moviantouk.NHSCC@movianto.com).

## COVid-19

**Vaccination of children who have turned 5 years old, but started the course under 5 and had a 3~~-~~microgram dose of vaccine - e**ligible children aged 6 months to 4 years who have commenced primary immunisation with Pfizer BioNTech Comirnaty 3 micrograms/dose vaccine but have their 5th birthday before their second primary dose is due (after a minimum interval of 3 months) should ideally complete vaccination with the Comirnaty 3 micrograms/dose vaccine (this is a licensed indication), but a dose of a Comirnaty 10 micrograms/dose vaccine is a suitable alternative (and is licensed from age 5 years irrespective of prior COVID-19 vaccination history). Vaccination should not be unnecessarily delayed in order to provide a Comirnaty 3 micrograms/ dose vaccine.

**Resources –** a helpful poster has been produced by UKHSA titled *Which COVID-19 vaccines* poster - Autumn 2023. The poster can be ordered here: [https://www.healthpublications.gov.uk/ViewProduct.html?sp=Swhichcovid19vaccinesposterautumn2023version](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthpublications.gov.uk%2FViewProduct.html%3Fsp%3DSwhichcovid19vaccinesposterautumn2023version&data=05%7C01%7Claura.wood47%40nhs.net%7Ca41f2b9074834a19638e08dbe4696513%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638354913759921380%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BmmylQ5VEJR0ydtlaHj9t3YdDZQgMokszpx79EMkaxg%3D&reserved=0)

## Vaccine update – GOV.UK

The latest Vaccine Update is available here - [Vaccine update: issue 343, October 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-update-issue-343-october-2023/vaccine-update-issue-343-october-2023). It is recommended that all health care professionals involved in vaccination subscribe to the vaccine update. Vaccine updates can be subscribed to here: [Public Health England (govdelivery.com)](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKHPA/subscribers/new?preferences=true)

## Enquiries

**Contact details for immunisation queries:**

* Any routine immunisation (Section 7A) enquiries or incidents (including cold chain & vaccine incidents) should be sent to the East Midlands Immunisation Clinical Advice Service (EMICAS) generic inbox [england.emids-imms@nhs.net](mailto:england.emids-imms@nhs.net)
* All ImmForm queries should be emailed to: [Helpdesk@immform.org.uk](mailto:Helpdesk@immform.org.uk) or 0207 183 8580.
* All practice payment queries should be emailed to: [england.gp-contracting@nhs.net](mailto:england.gp-contracting@nhs.net)

# **Patient Group Directions**

Patient group directions are available on our website at: [NHS England — Midlands » East Midlands Screening and Immunisation Team (SIT)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/midlands/information-for-professionals/leicestershire-lincolnshire-northamptonshire-screening-and-immunisation-team-sit/). Please ensure you are always using the most up to date version of any PGD. For any queries regarding PGDs please contact our generic immunisation inbox.

# **Screening**

## Cervical Screening

**New Cervical Screening Management System -** an urgent reminder to all sample takers to ensure the necessary authorisations have now been made to your individual Smartcards to enable your access to the new IT system when it is launched in Quarter 4, 2023-24.  Further national communications to stakeholders about the system go live are anticipated to be issued via all the various communication routes in the coming weeks.

**CSAS Update -**

**Nurse Sample Taker 3 year Update Training -** a minimum of 3 hours update training every 3 years is required and is usually done nowadays by completing the [national eLearning resource for sample takers](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.e-lfh.org.uk%2Fprogrammes%2Fnhs-screening-programmes%2F&data=05%7C01%7Claura.wood47%40nhs.net%7Ccbb1e7cc16db4faf491a08dbf17f16c0%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638369300359202937%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=52LBl7CwdOO4vXDXziQsAaiJgFYBHPZBvDKqQkkEVb8%3D&reserved=0) which meets the programme requirements for update training. There is also the option of attending an accredited face to face training session.

On completion of the eLearning for Health 3 yearly update training, sample takers must ensure they forward a copy of their training certificate to the sample taker database managed by the Derby Laboratory  [uhdb.cytologystdatabase@nhs.net](mailto:uhdb.cytologystdatabase@nhs.net)  to enable their registration on the database to be update.

Other available Primary Care cervical screening e-learning training will support sample takers continuing professional development, but not meet the national programme requirements for 3 year update training.

Link to the NHS CSP – Good Practice Guidance for Sample Takers published 31/07/2023, refer to Section 11: Trained Sample Takers

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-cervical-screening-programme-good-practice-guidance-for-sample-takers/nhs-cervical-screening-programme-good-practice-guidance-for-sample-takers#trained-sample-takers](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fpublications%2Fnhs-cervical-screening-programme-good-practice-guidance-for-sample-takers%2Fnhs-cervical-screening-programme-good-practice-guidance-for-sample-takers%23trained-sample-takers&data=05%7C01%7Claura.wood47%40nhs.net%7Ccbb1e7cc16db4faf491a08dbf17f16c0%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638369300359211300%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sDgNbRqm1R7IrJiHXokRPcGCgRuaDnCmvf9KIVKDbt0%3D&reserved=0)

## Diabetic Eye ScreeninG – Interval change for lower risk patients

From October 2023 the NHS Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (DESP) will start to invite people at lower risk of diabetic retinopathy for screening every 2 years instead of every year. People eligible for diabetic eye screening who have had two consecutive eye screens showing no signs of diabetic retinopathy will be offered screening every 2 years as it is safe to do so.

This change is based on a recommendation by the UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC) following a large study showing it was safe to invite people in this lower risk group every 2 years. Extended intervals are already in place in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Diabetic eye screening is important as it helps to prevent sight loss. As someone with diabetes, your eyes are at risk of damage from diabetic retinopathy. Screening can detect this condition early before you notice any changes to your vision. If someone is concerned about changes to their eyesight, they should contact their optometrist or optician straight away.

More information about the NHS Diabetic Eye Screening Programme, can be found at NHS.UK and GOV.UK.

## eNQUIRIES

Adult and ANNB Screening Programme enquiries should be sent to: [england.em.screening@nhs.net](mailto:england.em.screening@nhs.net)

# **COntact Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **GENERIC EMAIL FOR QUERIES RELATING TO SCREENING OR ROUTINE IMMUNISATIONS** | |
| IMMUNISATION | [ENGLAND.EMIDS-IMMS@NHS.NET](mailto:ENGLAND.EMIDS-IMMS@NHS.NET) |
| SCREENING | [ENGLAND.EM.SCREENING@NHS.NET](mailto:ENGLAND.EM.SCREENING@NHS.NET) |
| **CHILDHOOD INFORMATION SERVICES (CHIS) - UPDATED** | |
| LINCOLNSHIRE | [scwcsu.Lincs.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.Lincs.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234 |
| LEICESTERSHIRE | [scwcsu.LLRMovementsteam.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.LLRMovementsteam.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234  [scwcsu.LLRchildhealthrecords.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.LLRchildhealthrecords.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234  [scwcsu.LLRbirthsregistrationteam.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.LLRbirthsregistrationteam.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234 |
| NORTHAMPTONSHIRE | [scwcsu.northants.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.northants.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234 |
| DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE | [scwcsu.derbyshire.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.derbyshire.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234 |
| NOTTS AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE | Nottingham City - [scwcsu.nottscity.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.nottscity.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234  Notts County - [scwcsu.nottscounty.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.nottscounty.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234  Bassett Law - [scwcsu.Bassetlaw.chis@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.Bassetlaw.chis@nhs.net) Tel: 0300 561 0234 |
| **SCHOOL AGED IMMUNISATION SERVICE (SAIS)** | |
| LINCOLNSHIRE | [lhnt.sais@nhs.net](mailto:lhnt.sais@nhs.net) 01522 572950 |
| LEICESTERSHIRE | Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust: 0300 3000 007 |
| NORTHAMPTONSHIRE | [Imms.nhft@nhs.net](mailto:Imms.nhft@nhs.net)  0800 170 7055 (option 5) |
| DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE | [immunisations.derbyshire@intrahealth.co.uk](mailto:immunisations.derbyshire@intrahealth.co.uk) Tel: 0333583397 Option 5 |
| NOTTS AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE | [immunisations.nottinghamshire@intrahealth.co.uk](mailto:immunisations.nottinghamshire@intrahealth.co.uk) Tel: 0333583397 Option 4 |

# **Useful Documents**

* A poster for display in clinical areas promoting our immunisation clinical advice service:
* **UPDATED September 2023:** Incomplete or uncertain immunisation schedule: [Vaccination of individuals with uncertain or incomplete immunisation status (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1179084/UKHSA-12599-algorithm-immunisation-status-from-1September2023.pdf)



* **UPDATED September 2023:** Immunisation cohorts and providers for 2023/24:
* The Green Book – Immunisation Against Disease -  [Immunisation against infectious disease - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book)