**October 2024**

**EAST MIDLANDS IMMUNISATION TEAM BULLETIN**

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

# **Immunisation**

## **Discrepancy noted between the Routine Immunisation Schedule and the Green Book**

There is a difference between the eligibility of learning disability patients for pneumococcal vaccine in the Routine Immunisation Schedule Complete routine immunisation schedule from 1 September 2024 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) and the Green Book chapter (Green book chapter 25 - Pneumococcal (publishing.service.gov.uk)). This has been highlighted to UKHSA and work is underway to amend this.

Please note the following words from UKHSA: “Learning disabilities per se do not increase your risk of pneumococcal disease. Certain conditions such as cerebral palsy can increase your risk of aspiration (which increases your risk of pneumococcal) and also cause learning disabilities. ‘Learning disabilities’ is too broad a term and does not help identify those at increased risk (from aspiration). For example, autism in and of itself does not increase the risk of pneumococcal disease.” Any queries about this or specific queries about eligibility please contact [england.emids-imms@nhs.net](mailto:england.emids-imms@nhs.net) for clarification

## **The HEALTHY CHILD FLU PROGRAMME**

School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) teams across the East Midlands are commissioned by NHSE to deliver the Healthy Child Flu Programme, to children in school years Reception to year 11. Therefore, general practice is not required to offer vaccination to children in these cohorts, unless they also fall into a clinically at-risk category. Any queries about vaccinations for children in the school cohorts should be directed to the relevant school age immunisation team.  Contact details for all SAIS teams are included in the document below:



## **The pentavalent vaccine**

The pentavalent vaccine is no longer available for use in the UK as stocks were exhausted following the removal from the routine childhood imms schedule when it was replaced by the Hexavalent vaccine in August 2017. However other countries do still use a pentavalent vaccine, but this contains different vaccine components to the one which used to be available in the UK. This is often causing confusion and means that some immunisation records are updated incorrectly for movers in. The pentavalent vaccine offered abroad includes:

Diphtheria, Tetanus, Hib, Hep B and Pertussis. **It does not include the Polio component.**

Please be aware of this when recording and assessing the need for catch-up vaccinations.

## **Deducted** **patients on missing immunisation lists**

Recently some GP practices have advised that they are deducting patients from their caseloads, but these “deducted” patients are still coming through on the CHIS missing imms reports, and this is affecting practice uptake data.

TPP have looked at a some of these records and it appears the practices have not completed the full deduction process.

Do you have “deducted” patients on your missing imms reports? If you need a refresher on the deduction process there is a helpful video available in System 1, this can be found in: **Help, Support and Frequently Asked Questions** – type deduction in search and click on EDI links.

## **pertussis catch-up campaign 2024/25**

Due to the increase in cases of pertussis and recent infant deaths, the national immunisation campaign for 2024/25 is focusing on the pertussis vaccination programme for pregnant women.

Practices have been asked to undertake a marketing campaign for this programme, to share information about the benefits of vaccination, signposting to the vaccination and opportunistically offering this to women registered with the practice.

Please note that whilst pregnant women are eligible for their pertussis vaccination from 16 weeks of pregnancy. Receiving vaccination between 20 and 32 weeks of pregnancy provides optimal protection. **Therefore, it is important that women are offered the vaccination from 20 weeks gestation, by which time they should have had their fetal anomaly scan.**

This vaccine can still be given after week 32 of pregnancy until delivery but may not offer as higher level of passive protection to the baby.

**For further information please access the link below:**

[NHS England » Confirmation of national pertussis vaccination and immunisation catch-up campaign for 2024/25](https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/confirmation-of-national-pertussis-vaccination-and-immunisation-catch-up-campaign-for-2024-25/)

## **Vaccine update – GOV.UK**

All “Vaccine Updates” are available here - Vaccine update - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). It is recommended that all health care professionals involved in vaccination subscribe to the vaccine update. Please access this link to activate a subscription: [Public Health England (govdelivery.com)](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKHPA/subscribers/new?preferences=true)

# **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.

# **COLD CHAIN MANAGEMENT**

**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 for centrally supplied vaccines, is reported as a stock incident on ImmForm website at [Intranet Portal - Logon (phe.gov.uk)](https://portal.immform.phe.gov.uk/Logon.aspx?returnurl=%2fHome.aspx) **If no vaccines are destroyed as a result of a cold chain breach, then there is no requirement to report a stock incident on ImmForm.**

# **Useful Documents**

* A poster for display in clinical areas promoting our immunisation clinical advice service:
* **UPDATED September 2024:** Incomplete or uncertain immunisation schedule: [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccination-of-individuals-with-uncertain-or-incomplete-immunisation-status](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fpublications%2Fvaccination-of-individuals-with-uncertain-or-incomplete-immunisation-status&data=05%7C02%7Calison.campbell%40nhs.net%7Cb568368095cc4900802e08dccbecd237%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638609465205228126%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9x6LwXCc7f2Jih0EIaoBUWfXjTz6xiu6IWUlYYYgv0A%3D&reserved=0)
* **UPDATED September 2024:** Immunisation cohorts and providers for 2024/25



* 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)

# **THE immunisation team**

The East Midlands Immunisation Team cover all counties in the East Midlands region.

**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)

**Please include your practice ODS code in the email title, when contacting EMICAS, in order for us to appropriately record and audit queries and incidents**. **Failure to do so may result in a delay in answering your query.**

* 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: GP Contracting EMids:

[nnicb-nn.eastmidlands-pcgp@nhs.net](mailto:nnicb-nn.eastmidlands-pcgp@nhs.net)

# **OTHER COntact Details**

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| **CHILD HEALTH INFORMATION SERVICES (CHIS)** | |
| 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: 03333583397 Option 5 |
| NOTTS AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE | [immunisations.nottinghamshire@intrahealth.co.uk](mailto:immunisations.nottinghamshire@intrahealth.co.uk) Tel: 03333583397 Option 4 |