**February 2025**

**EAST MIDLANDS VACCINATION TEAM BULLETIN**

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

# **Immunisation**

## **Update from GOV.UK for: Easy read guide to the shingles vaccine**

There is now available an easy read leaflet providing information on the shingles vaccine, please click on the link below to access this information:

[Easy read guide to the shingles vaccine](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fpublications%2Feasy-read-guide-to-the-shingles-vaccine%3Futm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3Dgovuk-notifications-topic%26utm_source%3D973cc3e3-2d86-423b-b8bc-6709e096b4d5%26utm_content%3Dimmediately&data=05%7C02%7Calison.campbell%40nhs.net%7C31679fa22a9e41bf324208dd2e4d1a5f%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638717630917478405%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9Twhg2stHhlAV%2Bc%2BDejtwIpslQfSlwrCkDg3jNuC76c%3D&reserved=0)

## **Inadvertent vaccination in pregnancy**

It is important that anyone who has been inadvertently vaccinated against chicken pox (varicella), shingles, or measles, mumps, rubella during pregnancy are immediately reassured that there is no known risk associated with giving these vaccines during pregnancy. There is now advice available for healthcare professionals. Please see information at the link below:

[Inadvertent vaccination in pregnancy](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fguidance%2Fvaccination-in-pregnancy-vip%3Futm_medium%3Demail%26utm_campaign%3Dgovuk-notifications-topic%26utm_source%3D0a8ddf3c-806c-41e8-ac08-809ef58658ca%26utm_content%3Dimmediately&data=05%7C02%7Calison.campbell%40nhs.net%7C3b0ef5dc5b9544a6c11008dd3a1dc33c%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638730621675642176%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hfEYjDtNe7QaMxpgx7J%2Fh7C5mTDTk36HNaYbEzQV8Zs%3D&reserved=0)

## **update to the Complete routine immunisation schedule**

There has been a revision to the Complete Routine Immunisation Schedule. This now reflects the change to using Repevax rather than Boostrix-IPV for the pre-school booster at 3 years and 4 months. Please click on the link below to access the revised schedule.

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/678fbde6d2c87dca4bb81ffe/UKHSA_13197_Complete_Immunisation_schedule_04.pdf>

## **Infant immunisations and eight week baby check**

The routine immunisation schedule has been developed to ensure that clinically all vaccinations are given at appropriate times to provide protection against infections before eligible individuals reach an age at which they are at increased risk from vaccine preventable diseases. Any vaccinations given outside the specified timeframe may be less effective for the patient and may require re-vaccination at a later stage. As advised in the Green Book <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/622faef9d3bf7f5a83369a4b/Greenbook-chapter-11-11Mar22.pdf>

“**Recommendations for the age at which vaccines should be administered are informed by the age-specific risk for a disease, the risk of disease complications, the ability to respond to the vaccine and the impact on spread in the population. The schedule should therefore be followed as closely as possible”.**

We have been made aware of some instances where appointments for babies, who are due their primary immunisations, have been delayed because of a misunderstanding by staff, that the six-to-eight-week infant check needs to be performed before a baby can be immunised. Please note that this is not the case.

**“Delaying primary infant immunisations beyond eight weeks risks leaving babies unprotected against serious infections that can be very severe in the very young, such as whooping cough. The six-to-eight-week baby check is not required as part of the assessment for immunisation, and so the eight-week primary immunisations should never be delayed because of any delay in carrying out this examination”. - The Green Book Chapter 11.**

## **RSV INVITATION CAMPAIGN fEBRUARY 2025**

In addition to the call for general practices to continue to invite eligible older adults to receive their RSV vaccination (see primary care bulletin - 23 January 2025), please note that from 10 February 2025 NHS England will launch a national RSV invitation campaign.  Invitations will be sent using a digital first approach to individuals who turn 75 years old ahead of 10 February 2025 as well as individuals that were aged 75- 79 as of 1 September 2024 and are unvaccinated.

**Invitations will not be sent to individuals that have:**

* **Already been vaccinated.**
* **A future RSV booking on NBS.**
* **Requested nationally to opt out of the RSV vaccination programme.**
* **Never previously been registered with a GP.**

**Also, invitations will not be sent to eligible pregnant women.**

The invitation will include a call to action for eligible people to contact their GP to book an RSV vaccination appointment. GPCE have been informed of the invitation campaign and a communication will also be issued via the primary care bulletin. Regional commissioning colleagues have been asked to ensure GP practices are informed of the timescales for the invitation campaign and to highlight the need to have sufficient capacity to meet the demand for appointments.

## **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)

**Please find below a copy of the January 2025 Vaccine Update which features a special on maternal vaccinations:**



# **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 |