NHS England (North East and Yorkshire) Yorkshire and the Humber Flu Vaccination Programme 2023-24

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

This is a live document and will be routinely updated. This is not an NHS England policy document and will only reference national policy or clarify local commissioning arrangements. All formal policies and contract documentation will be sent to providers directly. This document is a reference tool to help support local providers and stakeholders and is an effort to share questions that we receive.

This document & any information provided herein is guidance only. All information is given in good faith and is accurate at the response date listed in this document. Information may be superseded by later versions.

Updates are highlighted in yellow.

No.	Question	Answer
Α	Planning and Delivery Guidance	
A1	What National guidance has been issued for 23- 24 National Influenza (Flu) Programme so far?	The <u>National flu immunisation programme 2023 to 2024 letter - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> gives details of the Flu program eligible cohorts and recommended vaccines, vaccines for reimbursement, timing, co-administration and data collections the Green Book. <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/influenza-the-green-book-chapter-19</u> (full detail/codes via
		National flu immunisation programme plan 2023 to 2024 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) (3rd July 2023) - amendments to the r
		COVID/Flu Seasonal Campaign Letter (August 2023)- PRN00695-autumn-winter-23-24-flu-covid-19-seasonal-campaign
		PCNs are asked to identify the sites which will deliver Covid-19 Vaccinations and put plans in place to co-administer Flu
		Letter re NHS vaccination response to urgent BA2.86 risk and changes to autumn/winter 2023/24 vaccination delivery p BA2.86 risk and changes to autumn/winter 2023/24 vaccination delivery programme
		Further FAQs relating to the Covid Vaccination programme, including interfaces with the Flu Vaccination programmes, h
A2	Where can I find the GP Enhanced Service specification for flu vaccinations?	Enhanced Service Specification seasonal influenza vaccination programme 2023/24; <u>Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Eradults and clinical risk groups</u>)
		Enhanced Service Specification childhood seasonal influenza vaccination programme 2023/24; Childhood Seasonal Infl specification 2023/24 (for 2 and 3 year olds)
		Template collaboration agreement for practices collaborating to deliver influenza vaccinations
		Additional guidance to support commissioners and general practice: <u>Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme enhance</u> recording of flu vaccination events, payments and collaboration
		Where practices / PCNs are planning to deliver Covid vaccinations alongside Flu, the following will be required: <u>Covid-19 Vaccination Enhanced Service Specification Autumn/Winter 2023/24</u> <u>Template collaboration agreement for PCN Groupings delivering Covid-19 and influenza vaccinations</u>
A3	How do GP practices sign up to deliver Flu vaccinations?	 ALL practices wishing to deliver Flu Vaccinations must sign up to the Enhanced Service Specifications via CQRS. This e of participation in the Enhanced Services, and that payment is received. Please sign up for Flu by 29th of August (5pm) if you wish to offer covid and flu vaccines together as part of a PC Please sign up for Flu by 31st of August (11.59pm) if you wish to offer ONLY flu vaccines.
		 The sign-up process for PCNs wishing to deliver Covid Vaccinations is managed through the local ICB System Vaccinat South Yorkshire: necsu.southyorkssvoc@nhs.net West Yorkshire: leedsth-tr.wyvaccineops@nhs.net Humber and North Yorkshire: hnyicb-c19.vaccinationprogramme@nhs.net

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mme for 2023 to 2024, including but not limited to ns. Full details of the at-risk groups can be found in a NHSE business rules)

national flu letter

gn-letter.pdf (england.nhs.uk)

lu and Covid-19 vaccinations where possible.

programme (30th August 2023) NHS England »

have been published here

Enhanced Service Specification 2023/24 (for

fluenza Vaccination Enhanced Service

nced service 2023/24: additional guidance on

ensures that commissioners have been informed PCN.

ation Operations Centre (SVOC).

No.	Question	Answer
A4	What will the pharmacy delivery be for 23/24 flu vaccinations?	The Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Advanced Service specification
		The seasonal flu vaccination programme will be offered via community pharmacies as in previous years.
		Pharmacies are required to use an NHS assured Point of Care system to record flu vaccination activity and claim paymer Yorkshire have commissioned Pharmoutcomes to provide this service for all pharmacies in our region. The vaccination event should be recorded on the day of administration or, in exceptional circumstances, as soon as post care system regarding the patient's vaccination will be shared with the patient's general practice (where this is known) a notification system, the pharmacy contractor must ensure a copy of the vaccination notification is sent or emailed (via se
		 The sign-up process for pharmacies wishing to deliver Covid Vaccinations is managed through the local ICB System Va South Yorkshire: <u>necsu.southyorkssvoc@nhs.net</u> West Yorkshire: <u>leedsth-tr.wyvaccineops@nhs.net</u> Humber and North Yorkshire: <u>hnyicb-c19.vaccinationprogramme@nhs.net</u>
A5	Will the National Booking Service (NBS) be available for booking flu vaccines this year?	Commissioned Community Pharmacy sites can offer COVID-19 and co-administered appointments on NBS, but pharma use NBS.
		Please note it is not possible for PCN Groupings to offer flu or co-administered appointments on NBS.
		The National Booking Service (NBS) will be opened for sites to upload appointments (where delivering flu and covid) fro become available to the public on 18 September for attending on 19 September onwards. Latest information can be found here
В	Contracts and payment	
B1	What are the payment mechanisms for individual GP practices delivering Flu vaccinations?	If the practice is delivering Flu Vaccinations as an individual practice, they should record vaccination activity in their own from the GP system to enable payment through CQRS as in previous years.
		Practices should note that the period for manual payment claims has been reduced from 6 months to 3 months, in line we claim timescales, not delivery timescales.
		For further information, see <u>Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme enhanced service 2023/24: additional guidance</u> payments and collaboration
B2	How do GP practices work together to deliver Flu vaccinations on a wider geography?	If GP practices wish to work together to deliver Flu vaccinations across a wider geography, all practices must sign up to used for practices within a PCN and/or practices outside of the PCN e.g. within a neighbourhood. <u>Template collaboration agreement for practices collaborating to deliver influenza vaccinations</u>
		All individual practices must also have signed up to the Flu Enhanced Service within CQRS.
		In line with the last two flu seasons, practices collaborating to deliver flu vaccinations should record the proportion of flu relevant collaboration agreement schedule. It is an individual practice responsibility to claim for the proportion of their control the flu collaboration. Practice claims should be made as per the usual process for claiming for flu vaccine under the SFE published flu guidance.
B3	How do GP practices work together to deliver Flu vaccinations as part of a PCN alongside Covid vaccinations?	All practices within the PCN (or network) must sign up to the Covid Collaboration Agreement via SVOC (as per Question <u>Template collaboration agreement for PCN Groupings delivering Covid-19 and influenza vaccinations</u>
		All individual practices within the PCN (or network) must also have signed up to the Flu Enhanced Service within CQRS
B4	What are the payment mechanisms for GP practices delivering Flu alongside Covid vaccinations as part of a PCN?	If GP practices are delivering Flu vaccinations alongside Covid vaccinations as part of a PCN they must use Pinnacle (o submit activity. This is to reduce complications in payment.
		Payments will be managed through MYS in the same way as Covid vaccination payments. For further information, see <u>enhanced service 2023/24</u> : additional guidance on recording of flu vaccination events, payments and collaboration
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nent. As in previous years, NHSE North East and

ossible thereafter. Data recorded via the point of automatically. Where a problem occurs with this secure email) to the general practice.

/accination Operations Centre (SVOC).

nacies offering only Flu vaccine will not be able to

rom 7 September 2023. Appointment slots will

vn IT system. Automatic GPES extracts are taken

with good practice. This only refers to payment

ce on recording of flu vaccination events,

to a Flu Collaboration Agreement. This can be

u vaccine contributed by each practice in the contributed flu vaccine that was administered by FE. Information is available in section 6 of the

on A3).

RS (See Question B4).

(or other Covid Point of Care (POC) system) to

Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme

No.	Question	Answer
		The Covid Collaboration Agreement will ensure there is clear understanding about how the payments received by the P
		If individual practices within the PCN deliver standalone Flu vaccination clinics for their patients (separate to the Covid F their own local GP IT system to record activity/events. The practice must be signed up to the Flu Enhanced Services with these Flu vaccinations.
B5	The system campaign letter (10 August 2023) requests that systems commence vaccination for care homes from 2 Oct 2023, and other cohorts from 7 Oct 2023. We have already planned for flu clinics to be delivered from September. Will we receive payment for these vaccinations?	 This has been superseded by the Letter re NHS vaccination response to urgent BA2.86 risk and changes to autum programme (30th August 2023) <u>NHS England » BA2.86 risk and changes to autumn/winter 2023/24 vaccination delive</u> The Enhanced Service Specification for Flu Vaccination 2023/24 begins on 1 September 2023 and ends on 31 March 2 activity in line with the Enhanced Service Specification 2023/24. Clinical priority should be considered in line with the system letters: Eligible Children (2 and 3-year-olds, children in at-risk groups, and School Age Children through School Age Imr Care Homes and housebound Eligible Adults
B6	The system campaign letter (10 August 2023) requests that Flu and Covid vaccination for all cohorts should be completed by 15 December 2023. Will we receive payment for vaccinations delivered after this date?	The Enhanced Service Specification for Flu Vaccination 2023/24 begins on 1 September 2023 and ends on 31 March 2 The initial system letter (10 th August) specified a completion date of 15 th December 2023 for the vast majority of activity, to flu circulating in December and January. The subsequent system letter (<u>NHS England » BA2.86 risk and changes to autumn/winter 2023/24 vaccination delivery</u> providers are being asked to ensure as many people as possible have been vaccinated by the end of October. For the flu programme, vaccination for all cohorts should continue to be offered and available within primary care up to to vaccination activity in line with the Enhanced Service Specification 2023/24.
B7	Clarification to the requirement for recording of flu vaccination events by PCN groupings	 Following feedback from practices, the <u>2023/24 seasonal flu ES specification</u> is being updated to amend the recording reveacinations by PCN groupings (i.e., flu only clinics run by a PCN Grouping). A PCN grouping's constituent practices with vaccination events in either their GP IT clinical system or their PCN grouping's point of care system (PoC). The system to be used must be agreed and adopted by all practices in the PCN Grouping to reduce the burden of post duplicate recordings and payments. The position with regards to the following has not changed: PCN Groupings that co-administer flu and COVID-19 vaccinations must still record their flu (and COVID-19) vac Individual practices must continue to use their GP IT system for practice delivered flu vaccinations or collaboration
<mark>B8</mark>	When will Pinnacle be configured to enable Covid-19 and Flu vaccinations to be entered as	Please note this information has also been shared with regional (covid) teams.
	a single entry?	Pinnacle updates, including simplified screening questions and vaccination history, are complete (15 Septemb the planned developments. We recognise not having these developments may cause some initial issues, and admin template and will update soon.
С	Training & Governance	
C1	Where can I find the latest Flu Immunisation Training Guidance?	Flu immunisation training recommendations - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
C2	Who can deliver under a PGD and/or the National Protocols? Can this be extended to ALL Healthcare Professionals?	The list of Health Care Professionals who can deliver under the NHSE Commissioned Flu Services PGDS 2023/24 are be extended to other healthcare professionals. Further detail can be found at: <u>Patient Group Directions-Patient Specific</u> The National protocols for Flu and COVID can be used for the administration of inactivated influenza vaccines and COV All current PGDs and the National Protocols are accessible on the following website <u>PGDs Yorkshire and the Humber</u>

PCN will be allocated to individual practices.

PCN Collaboration Agreement), they can use within CQRS in order for payments to be made for

umn/winter 2023/24 vaccination delivery

2024. NHS England will pay for all flu vaccination

mmunisation Services)

2024.

ty, to ensure maximum protection is achieved prior

y programme) has updated requirements. All

the end of March. NHS England will pay for all flu

requirements for synergistically delivered flu will now be able to elect to record flu only

t payment verification work to address any

accination events in a PoC system. ations under an Influenza Collaboration Agreement

mber). Pinnacle has not yet completed some of nd we are working with Pinnacle on the co-

e documented in the Flu PGDs. This list cannot fic Directions, Doctors, Dentists and use of PGDs

OVID-19 vaccines by appropriately trained persons.

Flu FAQs 23-24 v3 DRAFT3 22.09.23

No.	Question	Answer	
D	Vaccine characteristics, supply, movement, de	ent, delivery	
D1	Can injectable (inactivated) vaccine be given to children whose parents refuse on the grounds of porcine?	 Please see <u>Vaccines and porcine gelatine</u> Flu vaccination for healthy children and children in clinical risk groups is recommended to be given in a nasal spray calle and the nasal vaccine is considered the best option/gives the best protection. If the child is in an at-risk group and they choose not to have the nasal spray due to concerns about the pork gelatine (port then they should have an inactivated flu vaccine by injection. If the parent of an eligible child refuses LAIV because of its porcine gelatine content (and they understand that it is consi against flu and is the best at reducing the spread of flu), they should be offered an alternative injectable vaccine. QIVc wand should be ordered through ImmForm. Further details can be found in Flu vaccination programme 2023 to 2024: infor (www.gov.uk). Practices may offer this routinely from the start of the season where applicable. 	
D2	Can the LAIV nasal spray be used for people with learning disabilities where it would be difficult for them to receive the injection, or for patients with a needle phobia?	Yes - Practices are advised of the importance to ensure patients with a learning disability are vaccinated and make the re- vaccination programme 2023 to 2024: information for healthcare practitioners - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) and Flu vaccinated GP's can use their clinical discretion to offer LAIV 'off-label' under a PSD (from their centrally supplied vaccine stock) to to those with a learning disability and may include those in a clinical risk group with a serious needle phobia who may oth an injected inactivated vaccine. This is considered a reasonable adjustment. Nothing has changed in terms of the licensis under the PGD, but is referenced in the PGD and can be given 'off label' using a PSD.	
D3	Is the flu vaccine suitable for vegetarians and vegans?	Please refer to the relevant SPC (Summary of Product Characteristics) which provides the composition for each vaccine (emc) Where it is known that there are animal derivatives/excipients etc, then it is a personal choice.	
D4	Can flu vaccinations be moved between GP practices?	The MHRA issued the Human Medicines (Coronavirus and Influenza)(Amendment) Regulations 2022 No 350. There has extension to the exemption until March 2024. Further information can be found: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2022/350/regulation/4/made Additional information to that previously provided: Practices collaborating under either of the above collaboration arrange medical practice for the purpose of regulation 3(5), (8) and (9) of the Human Medicines Regulations 2012 (as amended), vaccine to their temporary single medical practice under Regulation 19(4A) of the Human Medicines Regulations 2012 (as out within the relevant collaboration agreement: • the vaccine sharing arrangements, including details of the proportions of the flu vaccine shared; • how collaborating practices will govern the supplied proportion of flu vaccine; and • how collaborating practices will claim reimbursement for any administered flu vaccine supplied and any perso Outside of the above, movement of influenza vaccine cannot take place under Regulation 19. In summary, the p COVID-19 vaccination programme cannot be used for movement of influenza vaccines.	
D5	The recommended vaccine for 6months to 2 years is the injected QIVc 'off label'. <u>Flu</u> <u>vaccines for the 2023 to 2024 season -</u> <u>GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> Does this mean that it would have to be given under a PSD rather than a PGD?	This vaccine is covered by the <u>Inactivated Influenza Vaccine v12.00 PGD (england.nhs.uk)</u> which states: Where a vaccine is recommended off-label, as part of the consent process, consider informing the individual, parent or carer that the national guidance but that this is outside the product licence. QIVc is licensed for those aged from 2 years. QIVc is also recommended years and may be administered under this PGD.	
Е	Care Homes		
E1	Can practices deliver flu vaccinations for Staff and Residents of Care Homes who are not their registered patients? Can claims be made for these vaccines?	Yes. For Flu, these individuals should be registered using the Immediate Necessary Treatment (INT) code. This will allow correct clinical code should then be applied – see <u>Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme enhanced service 2023/2</u> vaccination events, payments and collaboration	

lled Fluenz® Tetra: there is no equivalent vaccine porcine), or cannot have it for medical reasons, sidered to offer children the best protection will also be centrally supplied for these children formation for healthcare practitioners - GOV.UK necessary reasonable adjustments. See Flu ations; supporting people with learning disabilities o patients with a needle phobia. This is not limited otherwise go unimmunised if they refuse to have nsing of the product, and it would not be eligible e Home - electronic medicines compendium has been an amendment that provided an gements will be deemed a temporary single I). Practices can supply a proportion of their flu (as amended). In so doing, the practices must set sonal administration (PA) fee (where eligible). process widely known as 'mutual aid' in the the vaccine is being offered in accordance with ded by JCVI for children aged 6 months to less than 2

low the vaccination event to be recorded. The /24: additional guidance on recording of flu

Flu FAQs 23-24 v3 DRAFT3 22.09.23

No.	Question	Answer
E2	Which Care Homes are included in the Flu Vaccination offer?	 The following cohorts are eligible for influenza vaccination under the GP Enhanced Service: Those living in long-stay residential care homes or nursing homes or other long-stay health and social care faciliti
		This does not include, for instance, prisons, young offender institutions, or university halls of residence
F	Health and Social Care Workers	
F1	Peer-to-peer vaccination:	The Written Instruction for the administration of seasonal 'flu vaccination has been updated for 2023/24
	Can the Written Instruction used to support peer to peer vaccination be extended to include other registered clinicians (e.g. Pharmacists)?	Additional information - GP-practice-staff-flu-vaccination-advice-May-2023.pdf (sps.nhs.uk)
F2	What is the procedure for NHS primary care frontline patient-facing staff to receive a flu vaccination this season?	General practice will be expected support the vaccination of their frontline patient-facing staff. As with the 2022/23 seaso to their own eligible frontline patient-facing staff in accordance with the Influenza ES and are eligible for cover under the Practice (CNSGP) – see section B.4. Practices, however, are not eligible to claim for the item of service fee for the admin reimbursement of the vaccine cost or personal administration fees relevant to these vaccinations. Practices <u>must not</u> use
		PRN00687-seasonal-influenza-vaccination-enhanced-service-23-24-additional-guidance-august-2023.pdf (england.nhs.
		This should be done using a written instruction (see above)
F3	Can GP practices or pharmacies vaccinate and claim for vaccinating staff employed by other NHS healthcare organisations?	 No. GP practices cannot vaccinate front-line general practice staff who are not employed by them, with the exception of vertices is: i) Eligible under the NHS influenza programme due to age or clinical risk AND is a registered patient at their emit) A GP locum.
		PRN00687-seasonal-influenza-vaccination-enhanced-service-23-24-additional-guidance-august-2023.pdf (england.nhs.
		Where an employer is operating under an NHS Standard Contract, it is the employer's responsibility to offer their staff ac number of frontline workers in certain social care settings without access to an employer occupational health service that the Enhanced Service Specification for Flu Vaccination 2023/24.
F4	Which frontline health and social care workers can GP practices provide Flu vaccinations to, and claim payment for?	The Enhanced Service Specification for Flu Vaccination 2023/24 specifies that the following may be vaccinated where th registered patients or is an unregistered patient or whose name is included on another primary medical services practice receive their influenza vaccination from the Practice:
		 Locum GPs frontline workers in social care settings employed by the following types of social care providers without employer lec Registered residential care or nursing home Voluntary managed hospice provider
		 The following may be vaccinated if the person is also registered with that practice: frontline workers in social care settings employed by the following types of social care providers without employer led Registered domiciliary care provider Direct Payment (personal budgets) and/or Personal Health Budgets, such as Personal Assistants
F5	Will CQUIN payment for Healthcare Worker flu vaccinations be retained in autumn 2023?	For 2023/24, CQUIN01: Flu vaccinations for frontline healthcare workers has been retained. Further details can be found To qualify for a CQUIN payment requires a minimum of 75% flu uptake amongst 'frontline healthcare workers on ESR'. U healthcare workers on ESR' will be based on an automated data collection that has been recognised by DAPB. This colle data sources to calculate frontline healthcare worker uptake. Further information about the collection is available at: <u>DAP</u> and flu vaccination uptake collection as well as on <u>NHS England CQUIN scheme for 2023/24.</u>
		Workforce colleagues have identified the occupational codes assigned to frontline staff, and an overview is available on

ilities (regardless of age)

ison, general practice can provide flu vaccinations the Clinical Negligence Scheme for General ministration of the influenza vaccine, use the INT code to record these vaccinations.

<u>s.uk)</u>

of where the eligible frontline patient-facing staff

employing practice, or

<u>s.uk)</u>

access to a flu vaccination. It is only a very small hat are eligible for vaccination and payment under

they are either included in the Practice's list of ce's list of registered patients but has chosen to

ed occupational health schemes:

ed occupational health schemes:

Ind <u>here</u>. [']. Uptake of vaccination among 'frontline ollection is based on NHSE POC data and ESR <u>APB4075 Frontline Healthcare worker Covid-19</u>

n <u>FutureNHS</u>

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No.	Question	Answer
G	Cohort guidance	·
G1	Who is responsible for vaccinating 4 year olds?	 This depends on how old the child was on 31 August 2023: If the child was 3 years old on 31 August 2023, it is the responsibility of primary care under the <u>Childhood Se Service specification 2023/24 (for 2 and 3 year olds)</u> If the child was 4 years old on 31 August 2023, it is the responsibility of School Age Immunisation Services accessible offer for the child, including where the child has not yet started school. Further information can be found in the <u>LAIV PGD (england.nhs.uk)</u> (page 10)

Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Enhanced

es (SAIS). SAIS providers will provide an