

Seasonal Influenza Vaccination 2024/25

(Updates are shown in yellow highlight)

Documentation links

The following 2024-25 seasonal flu documentation has been published:

- [Seasonal Influenza Enhanced Service \(adults and at risk\) Specification](#)
- [Childhood Influenza Enhanced Service Specification](#)
- [Seasonal Vaccination Influenza Collaboration Agreement](#)
- [Seasonal Influenza Advanced Service Specification \(community pharmacy\)](#)
- [National annual flu letter](#)
- [NHS England — North East and Yorkshire » Patient Group Directions Yorkshire and the Humber](#)
- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/flu-and-covid-19-seasonal-vaccination-programme-autumn-winter-2024-25/>

GP contract 2024/25 documents published

A [suite of documents](#) relating to the GP contractual arrangements, which includes guidance, financial information and contract specifications, for 2024/25 have been published by NHS England

NOTE: the adult programme should not commence prior to the 3rd October.

Start date for autumn/winter 2024/25 seasonal vaccination programme

(Primary Care bulleting 13th June 2024)

The seasonal influenza vaccination programme was described in the national flu immunisation programme 2024-25 letter [on the Government's website](#).

The letter outlined that vaccination for **children and pregnant women will start from 1 September 2024** and other adult vaccinations will commence in October. NHS England can now confirm that all other flu vaccinations will commence 3 October 2024.

Although the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) have not yet advised what will be required of a possible COVID-19 vaccination programme beyond 31 August 2024, providers should plan for any COVID-19 campaign to

start alongside the main flu campaign. Eligible cohorts will be confirmed following Government's consideration of JCVI advice.

[Payment is via CQRS – practices should have accepted the service offer by 31st July. This has since been extended to 15th September.](#)

Please note the system letter <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/flu-and-covid-19-seasonal-vaccination-programme-autumn-winter-2024-25/>

published on the 15th August, which provides details of the 2024/25 COVID vaccination programme contained an error – **'The main flu and COVID-19 vaccination campaign will commence on Tuesday 3 October 2024'**. This has now been amended to read correctly **'The main flu and COVID-19 vaccination campaign will commence on Thursday 3 October 2024'**. **All providers are reminded, as per the service specification, that they will not be eligible for payment for the administration of influenza vaccinations outside the announced and authorised cohorts, with the limited exception of GPs that are able to evidence exceptional clinical circumstances requiring influenza vaccination to be administered at the request of the Commissioner.**

Patient Eligibility and Reminders

In addition to the routine system searches, GP practices can download eligible patient lists through the <https://digital.nhs.uk/dashboards/vaccinations-data-dashboard>. This will be updated before the start of the campaign to reflect JCVI eligibility. Access is via NHS smartcard and further information is available, together with the relevant user guides, at the above link.

National Invites and Reminders:

2 and 3 year olds – invites will be sent 17th September. Reminders will be sent w/c 14th October and 11th November.

Older adults and those aged 5 and over in at risk groups, letters will be sent w/c 23rd September

Q Flow Access - Onboarding

The national team advised that if the pharmacy goes through onboarding for Covid vaccinations, this will allow them to set up for Flu as well – no additional onboarding is required. Community Pharmacists offering flu only can now also use NBS.

Pharmacies should contact their SVOC for any support needed for NBS/Q-Flow.

Amended flu specifications following amendment to flu letter

An amendment was made to the [National Flu Immunisation Programme 2024-2025 letter](#) on 18 June 2024, due to the recombinant quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVr) being unavailable for this year's adult flu vaccination programme. The flu specifications have been updated to reflect this change:

- [General Practice specification](#)

Vaccine Information

Recommended Flu Vaccines (adult cohort)

Providers are reminded to always use first line vaccines as stated in the 24/25 annual flu letter; “providers should only purchase the alternative second-line vaccines if all attempts to secure the recommended first-line vaccines have failed (primary care bulletin 29th August 2024)

What if I need additional stocks of childhood vaccine?

Requests for extra vaccine by GPs will be considered on a case-by-case basis throughout the ordering period. Requests for additional vaccine should be sent to the helpdesk (helpdesk@immform.org.uk) and should be sent in good time before your order cut-off. Out of schedule deliveries will be by exception only.

Requests for extra vaccine by SAIS providers should be made via the helpdesk@immform.org.uk if this is a one-off request, or via the UKHSA Flu Vaccine Operations team childfluvaccine@ukhsa.gov.uk where a higher weekly cap is being requested.

Can I Vaccinate my Own Practice Staff?

Frontline patient-facing staff working in general practice are recommended to be offered/receive flu vaccination. **Vaccination of staff should not be undertaken until the 3rd October.**

Practices may vaccinate their staff in order to meet their practice requirement to offer, as part of the Practice's employer responsibilities.

The Practice will not be eligible for any payment in relation to staff vaccination (unless in another clinically eligible group), including reimbursement for the cost of the influenza vaccine, vaccination or personal administration fees relevant to these vaccinations.

The Practice must retain a record of the vaccination and where the Patient's name does not appear on their own Practice's list of registered patients, remind the Staff member that they should inform the practice where they are registered that they have received the vaccination from the Practice (their employer).

See service specification for full guidance.

Resources and Guidance

[Flu vaccination programme 2024 to 2025: healthcare practitioners](#)

[Flu immunisation training recommendations](#) - Information about flu immunisation training to support healthcare professionals. Updates made to the main guidance and appendix C for the 2024 to 2025 flu season.

[CPD | Recording and Backdating Vaccinations \(tpp-uk.com\)](#) - The vaccinations training link on TPP Learning Management System is here, support staff to identify eligible patients and correctly record vaccination events.

[Flu vaccination: simple text information for adults and children](#)

[Flu vaccine for children: best practice guide for GPs](#)

[Flu vaccination for children: leaflets and posters](#) – new translations added

[Flu vaccination: letter template for children aged 2 and 3 years](#)

[Flu vaccination: letter template for at risk patients and carers](#)

[Vaccine update: issue 349, September 2024 Flu special](#)

[FutureNHS – seasonal vaccination planning guidance \(also shared via primary care bulletin – 12th September\)](#)

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

[Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\): vaccination for older adults - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[See specific FAQs hosted on the YH PGD Webpage](#)