

# GP Bulletin

11<sup>th</sup> March 2016 / Issue 150

## About this bulletin

This bulletin contains important information for practice managers, including requests for information and deadlines, as well as updates on issues relating to GP contracts.

Copies of the bulletins and attachments are available on our website –

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/south/dcis-at/professionals/medical/gp-bulletin/>

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Primary Care Team for Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Devon Cornwall and Isles of Scilly by emailing: [england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net](mailto:england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net)

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## Key Deadlines

BNSSSG Directed Enhanced Services Claims	14/04/2016	Submission of DES Claim Forms should be sent to - <a href="mailto:england.primarycarefinancedcios@nhs.net">england.primarycarefinancedcios@nhs.net</a>
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Offer online access to detailed information from the GP record	31/03/2016	The EMIS and TPP (SystemOne) systems are already approved for use and INPS and Microtest plan to have systems available in February 2016
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- **Items for all Practices**

### **QOF 2016/17 Offered on CQRS**

QOF 2016/17 is now available on CQRS for you to accept. It is important that you accept the offer of QOF 2016/17 before 24<sup>th</sup> March to ensure that you receive your first QOF aspiration payment in April promptly. Any delay in accepting the offer may result in a delay in the payment and that payment not accurately reflecting your expected aspiration payment.

### **Measles clusters in London and the East of England and Scarlet Fever**

An increase in measles was observed at the end of 2015 with two identified clusters in South East England one associated with an importation from Somalia and the second following an importation from Spain. Since February, cases of measles have been confirmed across London and the East of England (Cambridge, Essex and Hertfordshire), predominantly in unimmunised adolescents and young adults (aged 14-40 years) without a history of recent travel. Please continue to promote the importance of MMR vaccination and ensure every opportunity is made to immunise.

There has also been an increase in scarlet fever activity across England since the beginning of 2016. Cases of measles and scarlet fever may be confused and therefore measles should be considered when cases of suspected scarlet fever present especially in young unimmunised children and/or adults.

### **Suspected flu outbreaks in schools**

The PHE South West Centre have written to schools across the region to advise them regarding an increased number of calls they are receiving from schools reporting outbreaks of respiratory / flu-like illness. Part of their advice includes parents contacting their GP if there are any household members in an at-risk group that have symptoms, or have been exposed to flu like symptoms, and have not had a flu vaccination this season. If you receive a request for a flu vaccination and do not have any vaccine left, please signpost to pharmacies.

### **Management and Preparedness of seasonal flu/ flu like illness in Nursing and Residential Homes**

You will doubtless be aware of increasing cases of Influenza Like Illness (ILI) in the community, and the pressures this is putting on nursing homes, with knock on pressure on NHS services. The attached letters from PHE have been prepared for Nursing and Residential Homes and include one which you may wish to distribute to Nursing and Residential Home Matrons and Managers in your area, or you may prefer to use its contents for your own communications. The attached have also been sent to local directors of public health with the same request.

- **Items for Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire Practices only**

**Primary Care Foundation Workshops - Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Practices only**

Further to our letter of 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 regarding the assets associated with the Prime Ministers Challenge Fund and subsequent bulletin item regarding dates of workshops, we have now confirmed venues and wish to invite practices to book onto one of the dates. Places are free, all workshops are 11.30 am-3.30 pm – lunch and refreshments will be provided.

**6<sup>th</sup> April** - At-Bristol, Anchor Road, Harbourside, Bristol, BS1 5DB

**7<sup>th</sup> April** – Hilton Bristol City Centre, Redcliffe Way, Bristol, BS1 6NJ

**12<sup>th</sup> April** - Hilton Bristol City Centre, Redcliffe Way, Bristol, BS1 6NJ

**13<sup>th</sup> April** - Best Western Walton Park (Clevedon), Wellington Terrace, Clevedon, Somerset, BS21 7BL

Further information and an outline agenda will follow in March. We will be looking to identify who will be responsible for maintaining and developing assets associated with the programme (such as IT infrastructure) to ensure the continued benefit of the local healthcare community. We will be considering this in the broader context of transformation and sustainability of the local primary care system and ensuring that we gain as much consensus as possible across the GP community. We want to make sure that the programme legacy serves your needs well.

**Please confirm which workshop date you wish to attend by replying to this email address - [england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net](mailto:england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net) (please confirm your practice name and how many places you/your practice want). For those of you who have already responded with interest with a specific date, if you have changed your mind please let us know otherwise we will keep these place(s) for you.**

- **Items for Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only**

**Reminder for practices in Devon and Cornwall who are part of the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust (RCHT) Cervical Screening Programme – changes to ordering cervical screening kits from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016**

As of 1<sup>st</sup> April services currently operated by Shared Business Services (SBS) are transferring to Primary Care Support England (PCSE). The vast majority of services will continue unaffected. However, because the dispatch of cervical screening kits (vials and samplers) to practices was a local arrangement, specific to RCHT only, this service will not transfer into PCSE. From 1<sup>st</sup> April practices are asked to order their cervical screening kits directly from RCHT. The relevant contact details are on the attached flyer.

To ensure that practices have ample stock during this period of change we are encouraging you to continue to order cervical screening kits through SBS until 16<sup>th</sup> March, regardless of whether or not this is your normal ordering week. It is recommended that, where space allows you order enough kits to ensure that

you will have a supply during April and May 2016. Please do not be concerned if it is not practical for you to order and store this excess stock, no interruption to service is anticipated, this is merely a precaution to ease the transition into the new delivery model.

If you have any questions or concerns please e-mail [phcontractssouthwest@nhs.net](mailto:phcontractssouthwest@nhs.net)