

GP Bulletin

10 November 2017 / Issue 237

About this bulletin

To minimise the number of emails sent to practices, the Local Regional Team is using this weekly bulletin as its main method of communicating with practice managers covering the 360 practices in Bristol, Somerset, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The bulletins contain important information for practice managers, which might include 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:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/medical/dcis/gp-bulletin/>

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Primary Care Team:

england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net

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Key Deadlines

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| CQRS declarations for payment in the same month | 9 th of each month | Via CQRS |
| 2017/18 eDEC | Over a six week period: from 16 October to 29 November 2017 | primary care website: www.primarycare.nhs.uk |
| Data submission for Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Uptake (GP patients Survey) for vaccinations administered from 1 September 2017 - 31 October 2017 | By 15 November 2017 (extended deadline) | Via ImmForm |

• Items for all Practices

Winter Plans and Arrangements for Primary Medical Services During Christmas and New Year

Please see attached letter regarding Winter Plans and Arrangements for Primary Medical Services During Christmas and New Year. Practices will be expected to fulfil their commitment for core and extended hours during the Christmas period.

Practices who provide extended hours under the Directed Enhanced Service on certain key dates over the festive period should apply by contacting our generic box england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net if they wish to move these hours to another day to meet demand.

Thank you for support over the festive season.

New Enhanced Service: Extension of NHS seasonal influenza vaccination programme 2017-18

Please find attached a letter detailing a new Enhanced Service scheme to support the delivery of flu immunisation for social care workers that offer direct patient care. This information is being provided to ensure that you are fully aware of actions that need to be undertaken if you wish to sign up to deliver this service which is due to commence mid-November. Please note a revised national PGD has been developed and is currently being signed off locally. This will be issued early next week. If you have any queries please contact - england.southwestscrimms@nhs.net

Mobile ECG devices now available at no cost

The SW AHSN is now calling for expressions of interest from commissioners and providers in the South West who wish to obtain mobile ECG devices to improve the detection of Atrial Fibrillation (AF). The SW AHSN has 250 devices available which have been procured by NHS England. An estimated 18,000 people in the south West (Somerset, Devon, Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly) have undiagnosed AF (PHE 2017).

The detection of AF is key to preventing strokes and opportunistic pulse rhythm checks using mobile ECG technology has been demonstrated to be an effective, low-cost method of achieving this. For more information about the devices and to download the expression of interest form <https://www.swahsn.com/mobile-ecg-devices-available-no-cost-order-improve-detection-af/>

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) guidance

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will become UK law on 25 May 2018. The Information Governance Alliance (IGA) will shortly publish guidance for health and social care on the impact of the changes. The IGA website will provide links to complementary guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office and the Health Research Authority. If you have any queries please contact your local information governance support. NHS England GDPR guidance for GPs will be published on the IGA website from December 2017. Please ensure your colleagues are aware for this guidance when it is published. If you have any suggestions on the format or content of this GP guidance please send these to dsp.england@nhs.net. An overview of the GDPR regulations is available at the following link <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-reform/overview-of-the-gdpr/>

Diploma in advanced primary care management

NAPC - in partnership with the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) and Capsticks - has launched a one-year masters' level diploma in advanced primary care management for people to develop the skills to manage primary care at scale within the NHS.

The diploma, which is currently being piloted with eighteen learners, has been tailor-made for the new evolving landscape in primary care. It is designed for primary care practice and business managers who aim to step up to support the delivery of integrated services within primary care. Offering practical and flexible learning, the diploma is also aimed at those responsible for setting up and running primary care homes, accountable care organisations (ACOs), multispecialty community providers (MCPs) and integrated primary and acute care systems (PACS).

Candidates who successfully complete the diploma will gain the equivalent of 60 credits at postgraduate/masters level 7. The qualification can be part of continued personal development providing a pathway to apply to study an HFMA Higher Diploma in healthcare business and finance, and ultimately an MBA with BPP University. Applications are now being received for the new courses starting February and June 2018.

[The prospectus is available to download from the NAPC's website.](#)

NHS Digital essential NHAIS server maintenance

NHS Digital will be carrying out essential NHAIS server maintenance in 28 specific areas over the coming months. The work will affect access to the Exeter system and some PCSE services. The Exeter system will be unavailable for three days starting from 7pm on the start date until 12pm on the end date, when you will not be able to access the system for any screening administration tasks, including downloading the HMR101/5 form. The downtime will also have a small impact on timescales for PCSE processing new patient registrations and de-registrations for practices

Devon will be affected on 22/11/2017 to 24/11/2017

NHS Property Services Premises Reimbursements

We apologise for the numerous changes in the payment mechanism for practices that occupy NHS Property Services buildings. However, we can confirm that for all 2017/18 reimbursements the current process is to claim using the Rent Reimbursement form accompanied with the relevant NHS Property Services invoice/s. Please send all invoices you have to date so we can process for reimbursement.

Water Rates Reimbursements

We have identified that a number of practices are yet to claim for their water rates this financial year. We would like to remind practices that they are entitled to this money and would therefore recommend that they claim for their bills using the Water Rates reimbursement form accompanied with the relevant water bill from the supplier. Please note that we **cannot** reimburse for Direct Debits and will only make payment based on the value of the bill.

England.premiseswater@nhs.net

Non-Domestic Rates Reimbursements

Similarly to water rates there are a number of practices yet to claim for their Non-Domestic rates bills. These are paid in full for the financial year and all practices are entitled to have this reimbursed. Therefore, if you haven't yet claimed for this money please get your claim to us at the earliest opportunity. The Rates Reimbursement claim form together with a copy of the invoice from the local authority will suffice in order for us to process your claim.

England.premises.rates@nhs.net

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

Possible TB exposure in a Bristol College

Public Health England (PHE) is investigating a confirmed case of tuberculosis (TB) in a student at a sixth-form college in Bristol.

Close social and household contacts of the case have been identified and are being offered screening to see if they have become infected as part of routine public health action. Other students and staff at the college who have not been identified as close contacts are not considered to be at risk from catching the disease, and are therefore not presently considered to require screening.

PHE is working closely with the college to provide advice and guidance to students and staff. It will be sending out a letter on Monday 13 November that includes information on signs and symptoms. This means practices may receive enquiries. PHE does not believe there is a risk to staff and students at this point, and wanted to avoid sending out a letter just before the weekend when it might be more difficult for people to talk to their own GP if they had concerns.

If you have any enquiries or require further information, please contact PHE on 0300 303 8162 (Option 1, Option 1). Thank you for your help and support.

BCG vaccination – Bristol & South Gloucestershire provision (for the attention of Bristol & South Gloucestershire areas only)

For BCG eligibility please see vaccine update edition:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-update-issue-266-july-2017-special-edition>

Eligible infants born at either Southmead or St Michaels hospital will be called to clinic for BCG vaccination post-delivery. Eligible infants who move into the area should be referred to Wellsprings Surgery.

Please find attached:

- **revised Bristol/S Glos BCG pathway and referral form for eligible infants moving into the area which can also be found at the BCH website <http://briscohealth.org.uk/our-services/tuberculosis-tb-nurse-service/>**
- **optional 'dear parent' letter re expected delay to give parents when referring 'mover in' infants**

We are aware there have been significant delays in infant BCG vaccination (especially for eligible mover in infants who are referred to Wellsprings surgery). This has been due both to vaccine supply as well as reduction in community provision (Lawrence Hill surgery are no longer providing). There is now adequate vaccine supply and we are addressing the need to increase community provision for mover in infants but it will take some time **and under 1 yr olds will continue to be prioritised.**

Please explain to parents that there may be a wait especially for Wellsprings surgery, give them a copy of the attached letter but **please do not refer 'mover in' infants to the acute Trust clinics.**

• Items for Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only

Possible TB exposure in a Plymouth college

Public Health England is working with Plymouth City College, Plymouth City Council and the NHS following a confirmed case of tuberculosis (TB) in a student at the college. As per routine practice, close contacts of this student have been identified and have been offered screening to see if they have become infected. Other students and staff at the college who have not been identified as close contacts are at a much lower risk from catching the disease, and are therefore not presently considered to require screening.

The student also worked part time in the Plymouth Primark store. We are sending advise and inform letters to staff in Primark as a precaution. The risk to staff in Primark is extremely low and do not require screening at this stage. We are including this information in the bulletin in case your patients attend your surgeries. If you require further information, please contact the Health Protection Team on 0300 303 8162 option 1 option 1.