

GP Bulletin

5th August 2016 / Issue 171

About this bulletin

To minimise the number of emails sent to practices, the Area Team is using this weekly bulletin as its main method of communicating with practice managers covering the 381 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.

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

Directed Enhanced Services Claims	10/08/2016	Submission of DES Claim Forms should be sent to – england.pcfinaancesw@nhs.net
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- **Items for all Practices**

SWAST sets up new phone numbers of urgent ambulances

South Western Ambulance Service is introducing new telephone numbers for booking urgent A&E transport.

The new numbers go live on Wednesday 10 August. The old numbers will still be active but will only take you to a recorded message giving the new numbers to call.

New Number	Area	Current Number
0300 369 0096	HCP Line Devon, Somerset, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	0845 602 0455
0300 369 0097	HCP Line Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset	0845 120 6342

This information will also be updated on SWAST's webpage:

www.swast.nhs.uk/What%20We%20Do/requesting-ambulance-transport.htm

Information for GPs about screening

PHE and NHS England are talking about the best long-term approach and channels for communicating effectively with GPs about screening. In the meantime, local Screening and Immunisation Teams are being asked to cascade important national screening messages across to GPs in England.

Dr Jim McMorran is writing a series of articles for the PHE Screening blog aimed at fellow GPs. His first [blog post](#) covers the big issues in [cervical screening](#), including an update on the national IT system and answers to some of the most common patient questions.

Please email mike.harris@nhs.net if you have any queries or any suggestions for getting screening messages through to GPs and primary care in future.

BCG Vaccine Supply

Further to our earlier correspondence we are writing to remind practices of the current situation with regard to BCG Vaccine Supply. The current BCG vaccine held by provider expires on 31 August 2016 and there is a limited supply of this vaccine with some providers across the South West.

The recent addition of Vaccine Update Vaccine Update247_June2016_SpecialBCG (attached) describes plans for an alternative unlicensed BCG vaccine. Stock is still very limited and for that reason only areas with a large eligible population will be able to order initially. In the South West, only two providers in Bristol will be able to place orders for BCG vaccine for the time being. If you have any queries about BCG, please email these to: england.bnsssg.screening@nhs.net

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

NHS Property Services (NHS PS) and Community Health Partnerships (CHP) rental charges – Bristol and South Gloucestershire Practices only

NHS England will be holding a drop in surgery session on Tuesday 23rd August 2016 for NHS PS and CHP tenants. This will operate on a pre-booked, half hourly slot basis. Please keep this date free in your diary. Further details will be sent to you in due course, on an individual basis, together with a template for requesting a time slot.

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

None