

GP Bulletin

6 October 2017 / Issue 232

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

CQRS declarations for payment in the same month	9 th of each month	Via CQRS
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Accept Childhood Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme 2017/18 and Seasonal Flu Service 2017/18 services	By 9 October 2017	Via CQRS
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- **Items for all Practices**

CQRS – Service Offer – Action Required

The following contractual service has now been offered for 2017/18 on CQRS:

- [Indicators no longer in QOF 2017/18](#)

Please note, that this service is a contract requirement and Practice acceptance of the service offer on CQRS is required to enable the automated data extractions to undertaken. Information about the service can be found by following the link above.

The following service has also been offered by the central team:

- [Dementia Data Extract 2017/18](#)

Please note this service has only been offered to Practices that are not currently participating in the Dementia Data 2016-17 extract. GP Practices that are currently participating in the Dementia Data 2016-17 extract will not receive the CQRS offer for this service. No action is required from these GP practices to remain participating in the Dementia Data 2017-18 extract. This core contract service is on CQRS to record agreement for data extracts to take place only. No data from this service will be recorded in CQRS. There is no payment attached to this service.

Please log in to CQRS and accept these services as soon as possible to ensure that you are included in the automated extractions.

CQRS Guide to Forgotten Passwords and Updating Security Questions

The CQRS Service Desk have produced the attached guidance on changing security questions for use when resetting a CQRS forgotten password. This should make the password reset process easier for CQRS users and avoid the need to call the Helpdesk for password resets.

Have you Accepted the Childhood Flu and Seasonal Flu 2017/18 Services on CQRS?

The Childhood Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme 2017/18 and Seasonal Flu Service 2017/18 services have been offered on CQRS. Please ensure that these services are accepted as soon as possible to ensure that you are included in the automated extractions which will take place next week (w/c 9 October 2017).

Read Coding for Seasonal Flu and Childhood Seasonal Flu

Please refer to the service specifications and Technical Requirements document (available on the [NHS Employers](#) website) to ensure that the appropriate and correct Read Codes are used. The

2017/18 Seasonal Flu Vaccination Read Codes are also available on the NHS Employers website, [here](#) (on the right-hand side of the page).

Please note:

- the 9OX4. (needs influenza immunisation) code does have to be added annually as appropriate to the patient record and within the service period, for seasonal flu this would be from the 1 September 2017 to 31 March 2018. Practices will have to review patients and add this code after the 1 September 2017 for patients to be included in the automated extraction
- the cohort for the Childhood Seasonal Flu service has changed in 2017/18. Children who are four years old and in a risk group will now be counted under the Seasonal Flu service on CQRS. As a result, if you have not already done so, you may need to amend any internal Practice searches set-up on your clinical system to ensure that you are checking the correct counts. (Children who are four years old and not in a clinical risk group will be offered a flu vaccination in school (reception year). The Childhood Seasonal Influenza service is for children who are aged 2 or 3 on 1 September.)

Flu vaccination for children at special schools

GP practices will be aware that as part of the roll-out of the national flu programme for all school aged children, children in reception and school years 1-4 will be offered the flu vaccine (Fluenz) at school this year.

In addition to this, NHS England South (South West) has agreed that children of all ages, up to 18, in special schools, should be offered the vaccine (Fluenz) in the school setting. This is on the basis that a very high proportion of those children will be at risk of very serious complications if they become ill with flu (in an 'at risk' category), and at least some may find it difficult to attend an appointment in their GP practice due to the very nature of attending a school that may be further away from home and/or residential. We carried out a pilot of this approach in Devon in 2015/16 and identified a significant proportion of children in special schools who were in an at risk category, had not previously had a vaccination, and were successfully vaccinated for the first time, in school (with a second dose being given where necessary).

All of our school immunisation providers have now agreed to contact all special schools in their area to establish the best way to make this offer to all the children on the school roll.

Children will receive a consent form via the school, which will include a question about whether the child has already had the vaccine this season, for instance at their GP practice.

Because GP practices are required to call and recall patients in an at risk category, children in this group will therefore get up to 3 invitations for flu vaccination. This is the same for children in an at risk category and in reception to year 4. The responsibility of GP practices to call and recall all patients in an at risk category is not replaced by this approach.

GP practices may find that parents choose to have the vaccine at the practice, this is covered under the Childhood Seasonal Influenza enhanced service and will result in a payment via CQRS. Whilst we have asked that special schools are prioritised for a visit early in the season, this is not always possible, so it may be preferable to vaccinate the child at the practice.

Both school immunisation providers and GP practices will need to advise children and parents that they do not have to have the child vaccinated again, as not all school immunisation providers report all vaccines to GP practices, and we have no other mechanism at present for GP practices to notify school imms providers of vaccinations given.

We do not expect this to have a significant impact on GP practice activity and income, as we are aiming to increase uptake in a group that is not currently accessing services. Our priority is to substantially reduce the risk of serious illness and death in a very vulnerable group of the population.

The usual pathway for flu vaccine for children is at the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/which-flu-vaccine-should-children-have>

Any enquiries please contact england.southwestscrimms@nhs.net

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

None

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

Child Health Information Service update for Cornwall GP Practices

In preparation for the school immunisation programme the Cornwall Child Health Information Team (CHIS) will be sending a list of School aged (Year 8 and 9) children to all GP Practices.

All GP practices are required to review and check these lists of patients, amend and return to CHIS to ensure data is up to date and to avoid duplicate immunisations.

If you have any queries regarding this please contact zoe.seymour@nhs.net, Child Health Information Service Manager for Cornwall.

Pain Management and Dermatology Open Day – 18 October

Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust are inviting GP staff to attend the above event. Details available on the attached flyer.