

GP Bulletin

15 September 2017 / Issue 229

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 361 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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 - None
- Items for Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Practices only
 - None

Key Deadlines

CQRS declarations for payment in the same month	9 th of each month	Via CQRS
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Submit Extended Access Data	between 1st September 2017 to 29th September 2017	Via Primary Care Web Tool
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• **Items for all Practices**

Flu season preparation – further information for all practices

Thank you for completing the ‘flu readiness’ survey, on top of all the usual work you do to prepare for the flu season. This provides assurance locally and nationally that we are doing everything we can to minimise the impact of a potentially heavy flu season. It also provides us with intelligence as to examples of good practice on the ground that we can gather and disseminate.

Although the season has officially begun, practice staff working on the flu programme are encouraged to keep checking the bulletin and Vaccine Update for news and information.

NHS England with the PHE screening & immunisation team, has a local Flu Oversight Group, attended by CCGs, Local Authorities, LMCs, LPCs and other relevant stakeholders. Top priorities for this year include, increasing uptake among the housebound and care-home resident population, increasing uptake among care home staff, and continuing the implementation of the childhood flu programme, including increasing uptake among the pre-school cohort. The group highlighted one or two top tips that we would like to bring to your attention.

1. When identifying the eligible population, make sure you remove people who are no longer eligible. This might include women who are no longer pregnant, because they have delivered their baby or because their pregnancy has ended earlier.
2. Similarly, amend the eligibility of children who may no longer fall into an at risk category for instance because they have completed treatment for a cardiac condition.
3. Make sure you have considered how to identify people who are now eligible due to the inclusion of obese patients over 40 BMI. We do not believe there is a standard flag on practice systems, and in some cases you may not hold up to date weight information. Consideration should be given to how to deliver this service ‘opportunistically’ as well as by proactive invitation. As above, it is important to remove people from the list of eligible patients if their condition improves, so they will not be included in the denominator in future years.
4. When offering to pregnant women, be aware that we now have arrangements in place with maternity services across the area from Somerset to Isles of Scilly to offer vaccination against flu and pertussis as part of the maternity care pathway. Arrangements differ slightly in each area, a letter was sent out to practices during the summer to confirm the details. Women can still choose to have the vaccination at their GP practice, and in some cases the practice may be able to offer a more timely appointment, depending on the woman’s EDD. All providers should update the patient held record of vaccination given to reduce the risk of duplicate vaccination.
5. Children in reception to year 4 will be offered vaccination at school, across the area, this year. Besides those children in an at risk group, practices are responsible for offering universal vaccination to children aged 2 or 3 on 1 September. Parents and schools are

provided with the contact telephone numbers for school based providers i.e. Kernow Health, Boots, etc. but inevitably patients will enquire at practices about the services and we would ask you to make sure all staff are aware of the details of their local providers to be able to direct enquiries. All practices will be (or have been) sent a 'pathways' pack for their local area, we also send out contact details for your local provider and details, where possible, of dates of visits to local schools.

6. Communications. The Stay Well This Winter campaign begins on 9 October with a focus on pregnancy women, children aged 2-3 and people with long term conditions.

All practices have now signed up to the Enhanced service, please don't forget to sign up on CQRS to both the seasonal influenza service and the childhood flu service, so that you will be able to claim for payment.

If you have any queries or concerns please email england.southwestscrimms@nhs.net.

2017 School Immunisation Pathway Document for GP Practices

On the 12th Sept the 2017 School Immunisation Pathway document for GP Practices was sent out via email to all practice managers in the Devon, Torbay, Plymouth and Cornwall areas.

The pathways provide a wealth of information on how school age children will be vaccinated in the school year 2017/2018 in your area including:

- An overview of arrangements in your local area
- A practice checklist to help understand your responsibilities
- A childhood flu pathway
- A MenACWY pathway
- A HPV pathway
- Useful information, links and contacts
- Financial information

If you have any questions regarding this document please email the Screening and Immunisation team on england.southwestscrimms@nhs.net.

Head of Primary Care Vacancy

NHS England is offering the above joint role working across the 3 Peninsula CCGs (Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, NEW Devon and South Devon & Torbay CCGs) and NHS England South West. This is a great opportunity for the right candidate to lead the NHS England primary care team at a time when the delivery, development and transformation of general practice is centre stage to the future strategic agenda of the local STPs, and in delivering the GP Forward View. Further details are available at: <https://www.jobs.nhs.uk/showvac/1/2/914780866> or by searching Ref: 990-NHSE8525S at <https://www.jobs.nhs.uk>

Regional Primary Care Conference on 2-3 November 2017

South West Academic Health Science Network are holding a regional Primary Care Conference. It is to be held on 2-3 November 2017 on the Plymouth University campus. It's free to attend and

being hosted by the Plymouth/Western Locality NHS system and the University of Plymouth for participants across the south west. Please see attached flyer for further information and to book the link is <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/whats-on/primary-care-conference>

Hepatitis B vaccine shortage

The attached PHE Hepatitis B vaccine shortage letter to GPs went out in a recent GP bulletin but there have since been reported incidents of practices ordering adult Hepatitis B vaccination and being charged inflated cost by manufacturers. Please note the letter clearly states:

*PHE and DH have been working with both vaccine manufacturers to institute ordering restrictions according to customer type. **It has been agreed with the BMA's General Practice Committee that general practice will not be able to order any adult hepatitis B vaccine stock until further notice.***

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

None

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

None