

GP Bulletin

17th June 2016 / Issue 164

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

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 - None

Key Deadlines

K041b Complaints data return	26/05/2016 to 23/06/2016	Mandatory submission of data via the Primary Care Webtool: https://www.primarycare.nhs.uk/
Directed Enhanced Services Claims	08/07/2016	Submission of DES Claim Forms should be sent to – england.pcfinaancesw@nhs.net

• Items for all Practices

REMINDER: K041b Complaints data return – Deadline 23rd June 2016

Please be aware that the deadline for submission of the K041b complaints data is **23rd June 2016**. We would like to thank those Practices who have submitted their data return, but we are aware that there are still **40%** of Practices who are yet to do so. We would be grateful if those Practices could prioritise this action.

Important Notification about 2015/16 AUA DES Settlement

The second and final data extraction for the 31st March 2016 AUA achievement date is now underway and any coding corrections made now will not be included. Therefore, no amendments can be made or coding changes as it will not change the results at this stage. The re-extracted data should be available to view from 23rd June 2016, and NHS England will then review the data after that date and contact Practices individually to provide next step instructions. We plan to commence this work on 28th June so please do not email any information or supporting evidence at this time before you are contacted.

Where practices have been successful in achieving this service with the original extraction and who have returned their completed template report, we have undertaken all the approvals and you will be paid soon. The second extraction will only take place for those Practices where financial approval has not yet been given so will not affect those practices who have successfully achieved the requirements.

Cervical Cancer Awareness Week – 13th – 19th June 2016 – Reminder: practices may see an increase in women request cytology screening

As you are aware this week was Cervical Cancer Awareness Week, has been running since Monday 13th June until Sunday 19th June. This provides an opportunity to promote and increase access to screening appointments in the coming weeks and months.

The charity Jo's Trust have led on the national media campaign promoting awareness of the risks and which seeks to increase uptake of cervical screening across all age groups. NHS England South – South West have supported the campaign by focusing on improving uptake for the over 50s as this is where we can see uptake rates are the lowest they have been for 18 years.

This is just to remind you that as a result of the campaign you may notice an increase in the number of women requesting information on cervical cancer screening and seeking appointments to be screened.

NHS England thanks you for your continued support to help increasing access to screening.

Please see below some information about screening women over 50 that may be useful: [Research](#) by Jo's Trust underlines the importance of providing more flexible access to screening:

- **Almost a third (29%) of women of screening age (25-64 year olds) who missed or delayed a screening appointment said it is hard to book an appointment for cervical screening at a convenient time.**
- **Only 16% of women of screening age (25-64 year olds) that have missed or delayed appointments agreed that their GP surgery offers screening appointments in the evenings or on weekends which has made it easier to attend a screening.**
- **Of women of screening age (25-64 year olds) who had missed or delayed appointments, 35% agreed that if GP surgery opening times had been more flexible it would have encouraged them or even ensured they attended those appointments**

Please also see <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-36503409> This article is about women over 50 putting off screening

We have also reminded cytology laboratories about the potential increase in demand so that we can ensure a prompt turnaround in results.

Timing of pertussis vaccine in pregnancy

In February 2016 the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) reviewed new evidence indicating that high levels of maternal antibody are transferred to the infant, even if women are vaccinated earlier in pregnancy. Therefore, from 1 April 2016 it has been recommended that pregnant women are offered a single dose of dTaP/IPV vaccine between gestational weeks 16 and 32 **in every pregnancy**.

In practice, the customary time to offer pertussis immunisation will be after the foetal anomaly scan, which usually takes place between 18 and 20 weeks gestation. The reason for undertaking immunisation after the scan is to protect the vaccine from being associated with any anomalies identified at the mid-term anomaly scan. The GP contract for 16/17 has been negotiated to allow for the vaccine to be offered from 20 weeks gestation and the current PGD reflects this contractual position.

Information for Midwives

Midwives are advised to discuss pertussis immunisation as part of routine antenatal care and when sign posting pregnant women for vaccination at their GP surgery to remind them of the need to ensure that any appointment is made from 20 weeks gestation.

Information for General Practice

Practices should be aware that pregnant women are likely to discuss with their midwife the need for vaccination prior to 20 weeks and may be contact with the practice to request an appointment.

For these women appointments should be arranged after 20 weeks gestation to ensure alignment with the GP contract and PGD.

Women may still be immunised after week 32 of pregnancy but this may not offer as high a level of passive protection to the baby. Vaccination late in pregnancy will, however, offer protection against disease to the mother and thereby reducing the risk of exposure in her infant.

To support this change Public Health England have published a new leaflet to inform women of the importance of immunisations against pertussis and influenza in pregnancy and the need for MMR post-natally if indicated, see

www.gov.uk/government/publications/pregnancy-how-to-help-protect-you-and-your-baby

Please contact england.bnsssg.imms@nhs.net if you have any queries in relation to this information.

Scheduling and timing of the routine pre-school booster vaccination

Please see attached a briefing from the Screening and Immunisation Team about discrepancies with the pre-school booster COVER coverage data and a request for support from GP practices to ensure that children are vaccinated from age 3 years and 4 months and not before.

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

None

- **Item for Bristol, Somerset and Cornwall Practices**

Additional free immunisation training

Further to the recent immunisation training survey we asked practices to complete and funding secured, significant numbers of additional immunisation training events will be taking place this year across the region.

All the immunisation training provided has been quality assured by the Screening and Immunisation Team, PHE/NHSE – South (South West) as meeting the national standards for immunisation training.

Please ensure that you take advantage of this additional provision as it is one off funding and available to practices whether or not they pay into a provider fund.

Please check in your local areas for training details:

- Somerset LMC Educational Trust <https://www.somersetgpeducationtrust.co.uk/events>
- Avon LMC <http://www.almc.co.uk/staff-training/>
- Cornwall <http://cornwallpn.co.uk/>

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

None