

GP Bulletin

16th December 2016 / Issue 191

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 376 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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- Items for Bristol, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire Practices only
 - 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
Directed Enhanced Services Claims	08/12/2016	Submission of DES Claim Forms should be sent to – england.pcfincesw@nhs.net

eDEC Submission	14/11/2016 – 23/12/2016 (Please note the amended dates)	- Submission via Primary Care Web Tool - Practice Manager requests for access to the eDEC submission should be sent to england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net
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• Items for all Practices

GP electronic annual practice declaration (eDEC) 2016/17

Please find attached information regarding this year's annual Practice mandatory declaration which is currently open for submission until **Friday, 23rd December 2016**. Thanks to all those practices that have already submitted (253 to date).

Infant Hepatitis B dry blood spot testing

Please see two attachments:

1. The South (SW) Infant Hepatitis B immunisation protocol - has recently been updated and relates to the infant Hepatitis B vaccination and serology testing programme as outlined in the national immunisation guidance: <http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/primary-care-contacts/general-medical-services/vaccination-and-immunisation/2016-17-vaccination-and-immunisation>
2. The South (SW) Infant Hepatitis B dried blood spot testing summary document outlines the local arrangements for a national PHE scheme that we are now able to offer across the NHS England South (SW) area. Over 50% of area teams are already operating this programme in primary care. The scheme enables the practice to undertake serology testing in the practice at 12 months at the same time as the 4th HepB vaccination, using a dried blood spot testing kit. This has a number of benefits over the need for a referral to hospital including an increase in uptake of the serology test at 12 months thereby reducing clinical risk, and also improving the patient experience.

This link takes you to the detailed guidance on the GOV.UK website -

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/hepatitis-b-dried-blood-spot-dbs-testing-for-infants> which includes guidance on how to take a dried blood spot test.

As we have a low prevalence of Hep B in the South West area, the use of the dried blood spot kits will be extremely small numbers (last year only 26 infants started the Hep B vaccination programme in BNSSSG area with much smaller numbers in the DCIOS area). However, serology testing infants at 12 months is essential to ensure a timely assessment, where necessary, in order to reduce the risk of long term complications and disease in later life. The attached document outlines local arrangements for the programme.

If you have any queries about the introduction of the programme locally, please contact:
Sara Dove, Screening and Immunisation Coordinator
england.bnsssg.imms@nhs.net

Sharing of screening and immunisation information in the GP bulletin

The GP Bulletin is the main mechanism for the Screening and Immunisation Team to share updates with primary care colleagues, especially in relation to immunisation policy and programme delivery. As the bulletin is distributed directly to GP Practice Managers and those who have specifically requested to be included on the distribution list, we would be grateful for your help to ensure that the bulletin is disseminated to all staff in your practice involved in screening and immunisation programmes, such as GPs, Practice Nurses and admin staff. We have received some feedback that some staff groups are not always receiving the updates so your support to achieve this would be much appreciated.

Advanced notice regarding imminent procurement of Outreach Primary Medical Services in Plymouth – December 2016

Please see the attached document for more information.

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

None

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

None