

GP Bulletin

Date 9 March 2018 / Issue 254

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 371 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

Key Deadlines

CQRS declarations for payment in the same month	9 th of each month	Via CQRS
Maternity, paternity, parental or sickness absence	by 8 March 2018	Via email to england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net

All outstanding Enhanced Services claims up to and including February 2018	by 8 March 2018	to england.pcfincesw@nhs.net
Somerset Practices confirm sign-up intentions for QOF or SPQS	by 8 March 2018	Via Somerset CCG
All outstanding CQRS claims for each service to be declared	by Friday 9 March 2018	Via CQRS
Participation in QOF 17/18	by 23 March 2018	Via CQRS
Bi-annual extended access collection submission from 1 March 2018 to 31 March 2018 inclusive	by 29 March 2018	Via Primary Care Web Tool
Manual QOF input achievement for the required manual indicators	by midnight on 31 March 2018	Via CQRS

- **Items for all Practices**

Having a child through surrogacy

The Department of Health and Social Care has published guidance for healthcare professionals on good practice in providing care to people having a child through surrogacy: [Having a child through surrogacy](#)

NEW NHSE Temporary Practice Closure Form (Not SD&T Practices)

NHSE have reviewed the current process for practice temporary closure requests and have revised the current application form to be replaced by the attach form. This will hopefully reduce correspondence between both parties.

SD&T practices are to follow the procedure as directed by SD&T CCG.

Hepatitis B Vaccine Supply Update - Plan for phased re-introduction of Hepatitis B vaccine for lower priority groups 2018

Hepatitis B monovalent vaccine will soon (spring 2018) become available for priority groups 4 (with the exception of travel) including patients with chronic liver disease, household or sexual contacts of chronic hepatitis B cases and other healthcare and frontline workers. Vaccine ordering will be opened in a phased approach to ensure continuity of supply. The dates for opening of vaccine ordering for patient and staff groups depends on manufacturer expected deliveries and demand. For more information please see manufacturers' websites, join their email lists for updates or contact their customer service (details available on page 8 of below link).

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/683830/Plan_for_phased_re-introduction_of_hepatitis_B_vaccine_for_lower_priority_groups_2018_.pdf

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

TB case in a member of the St Brendan's college community

Public Health England (PHE) is working with Bristol City Council and the NHS following a case of tuberculosis (TB) in a member of the college community. The case is responding well to antibiotics. A previous case was diagnosed at the college in 2017.

PHE is sending a letter to staff and students on 9.3.18 alerting them about the signs and symptoms and to consult their GPs if they have symptoms. We have been working closely with one GP practice to inform communications and they were keen that we alert all GPs about what to say to patients about TB. Please see the following lines.

TB is a bacterial infection, which is treated with antibiotics. Fortunately, it is not easily passed from person to person and generally the risk to others is low. Symptoms include a chronic cough, often lasting three weeks or more which may produce bloody phlegm, fatigue, weight loss, weakness, fever, sweating, loss of appetite and new swellings that do not go away after a few weeks.

Close contacts of the TB case are being identified and offered screening to see if they have become infected.

Further information about tuberculosis is available by visiting the following websites:

www.tbalert.org

www.thetruthabouttb.org

www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Tuberculosis/Pages/Introduction.aspx.

Public Health England exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing, and reduce health inequalities. It does this through world-class science, knowledge and intelligence, advocacy, partnerships and the delivery of specialist public health services. PHE is an operationally autonomous executive agency of the Department of Health. Website: www.gov.uk/phe Twitter: [@PHE_uk](https://twitter.com/PHE_uk), Facebook: www.facebook.com/PublicHealthEngland

For further information or to notify cases, please contact the South West (North) Health Protection Team on 030 30 38 162 the select option 1 and option 2.

Thara Raj, Consultant in Health Protection, Public Health England South West

- **Items for North, East and West Devon Practices only**

None

- **Items for South Devon and Torbay Practices only - CCG Delegation Light**

None

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

None