

## **Adjuvanted trivalent flu vaccine delivery for the over 65's and planning flu clinics.**

As outlined in the most recent communication from NHS England, all GP practices and pharmacies which have successfully placed orders, will receive some of their FLUAD<sup>®</sup> order in September with further deliveries in October and the first half of November. Seqirus have suggested the following delivery schedule below.

The total order will be delivered by November and will be split as follows:

- 40% in September
- 20% in October
- 40% in November

An example of what this will mean in practice is that a practice who has ordered 1000 doses of FLUAD<sup>®</sup> will receive 400 doses in September, 200 doses in October and 400 doses in November.

This ensures that all practices have fair and equitable access to FLUAD<sup>®</sup> across the UK but does mean organisation of flu clinics may have to be planned more carefully this season.

As practices will receive vaccines for the over 65's in stages, clinics for the over 65's will need to be offered in September, October and November and patients made aware that not everyone in this age group, can receive their vaccine at the same time, as in previous years. They will however, be receiving the most effective vaccine for their age group.

Practices can however, call in their 2 and 3 year olds and their at risk patients, in the early part of the season. Vaccinating children not only protects these young patients but also has an indirect and positive effect on reducing transmission of flu in the wider community, particularly protecting those who are unable to have the vaccination themselves. It is therefore beneficial to vaccinate children early in the programme.

As in previous years, there will be controls on the children's centrally supplied vaccines, to avoid vaccine wastage and ordering of excess vaccines. The latest information on this will be available in 'Vaccine Update' and on ImmForm, prior to the start of the season and during the vaccination period.

Flu clinics will need careful planning this year, in view of the staged delivery for the adjuvanted trivalent vaccine. You will have 60% of your order for over 65's by the end of October and 100% by November, so hopefully these patients will be vaccinated before flu starts circulating and can be assured they will be receiving the most effective vaccine.

If you have any questions, please contact your local Screening and Immunisation Team.