

Public Health GP Bulletin

Section 7a: Screening & Immunisations



NHS England and NHS Improvement - South West

Date: 13 November 2020 / Issue 10

About this bulletin

The NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE/I) South West Integrated Public Health Team has taken over responsibility from the NHSE/I South West Primary Care Team for collating and issuing a rebranded, weekly Public Health GP Bulletin. This weekly bulletin is the main method of communicating with practice managers covering the 579 practices in Bristol, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Bath & North East Somerset, Swindon, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Devon, Dorset, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

The bulletins contain important public health information for practice managers on Section 7a screening and immunisation programmes, which are commissioned by NHSE/I. Content may include requests for information and deadlines affecting payments, as well as updates on issues relating to GP contracts.

Current issues and back copies of the bulletins and attachments are available on the NHSE/I website [here](#).

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Integrated Public Health Team on england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net

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 - None
- Items for Gloucestershire Practices only
 - None
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 - None

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

Key Deadlines

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- **Items for all Practices**

PPV 23 (Pneumovax) notification of limited supply

On behalf of the national team please find attached an updated Vaccine Supply Notification (VSN2020_001U Pneumovax 23,) regarding limited supply of PPV 23 vaccinations. Supplies remain very limited and are expected to be out of stock from mid-November 2020 until January 2021. Providers are asked that all remaining stock is prioritised for the vaccination of high-risk patients per PHE clinical prioritisation guidance. Please read the notification attached for more detail.

If you have any stock-related queries please contact:

DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk

PCV13 Infant dose at 12 weeks – Clarification of importance of 12 weeks + 0 days delivery

As you know on the 1st January 2020, there was a schedule change for PCV13 and babies born on or after 1st January 2020 should be offered the revised PCV13 schedule of a single priming dose at 12 weeks of age (with the DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB and rotavirus vaccines), followed by a booster dose at 12 months of age (with Hib/MenC, MMR and MenB vaccines). Further information on the PCV13 schedule change can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pneumococcal-vaccination-guidance-for-health-professionals> . This schedule change has repeatedly been communicated through the primary care bulletin and national vaccine updates.

For Infants born on/after 01/01/2020 who are inadvertently given a dose of PCV13 before 12 weeks of age, they should be offered an additional dose of PCV13 from 12 weeks of age allowing a minimum interval of 4 weeks between PCV13 doses.

Following queries regarding the age threshold of the vaccine given too early (i.e. if given 1-2 days prior to the child turning 12 weeks), further clarification was sought from the national team who have confirmed that the evidence on which the JCVI made their recommendation to offer a single priming dose of PCV13 at 12 weeks of age, was based on a study by Goldblatt et al in which vaccine was administered from 12 weeks of age. It has not been studied as a single priming dose schedule offered at an earlier age than this. It is possible that vaccine given slightly earlier than 12 weeks produces a satisfactory immune response, but there have no evidence to show this is the case hence the recommendation.

We have also sought clarification about the definition of 12 weeks: immunisation at 12 weeks of age means the vaccine should be administered from 12 weeks plus 0 days and ideally by 12 weeks plus 6 days. Weeks should be calculated in weeks/days from the day of birth, not the time of day on the day of birth.

Children immunised ahead of the national schedule may be protected however the recommendation for GPs to follow national advice is so if the child does get invasive pneumococcal disease, the practice would be able to evidence the child was given the vaccine at the correct time.

We would recommend that where practices have given the single priming dose of PCV prior to 12 weeks + 0 days they should offer an additional dose of PCV13 to the parent, outlining the above but it should be the parents choice as to whether they wish their child to have an additional dose.

The reference to the study is here for interest: Goldblatt D, Southern J, Andrews NJ et al. Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine 13 delivered as one primary and one booster dose (1 + 1) compared with two primary doses and a booster (2 + 1) in UK infants: a multicentre, parallel group randomised controlled trial. Lancet Infect Dis 2018;18: 171–79 Published Online November 22, 2017 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099\(17\)30654-0](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(17)30654-0)

CQRS Seasonal Flu programme 2020/21 your declarations and payments

The seasonal flu season is well under way and we are aware of all the hard work you and your teams are doing to deliver this programme, with the added pressures due to the current climate. We thank you for your continued support with this important Public Health vaccination programme.

The current flu programme does not include those in the 50-64 year-old age group, who are not in an eligible group detailed within the service specification. The programme may be extended in due course to include these patients, however, until this is confirmed Practices will not receive payment for vaccinating these patients.

Following the Seasonal flu extractions for September and October activity, we have noticed that some practices across the South West appeared to have activity in the 50-64 year-old age group who are not in an eligible group detailed within the service specification, and therefore are not eligible for payment.

Indicators not currently included for payment are detailed below, and there should be no activity against these indicators -

SFLU011	Monthly count of patients aged 50-54 years on 31 March 2021 who have received a seasonal influenza vaccination using the recommended vaccine by the GP practice, within the reporting period.
SFLU012	Monthly count of patients aged 55-59 years on 31 March 2021 who have received a seasonal influenza vaccination using the recommended vaccine by the GP practice, within the reporting period.

SFLU013 Monthly count of patients aged 60-64 years on 31 March 2021 who have received a seasonal influenza vaccination using the recommended vaccine by the GP practice, within the reporting period.

For those practices who have activity against this cohort, we are asking you to review your data before you declare to resolve any discrepancies. Please note that where you have declared activity against these indicators, we may place your payment on hold or request a post payment verification at a later stage.

Action to be taken

If your practice has not yet declared your September or October activity, please log into CQRS and check your data against your clinical system. If the data is inaccurate and requires amendment, please submit the appropriate manual data amendment request form with the appropriate supporting information.

If you have delivered to this group in error, you will not receive payment and you will need to complete a manual data amendment request form requesting that those vaccinations are removed from your claim.

If you have not delivered to this group and you believe this error is due to a coding issue, please complete a manual data amendment request form to remove the activity from the above indicators and move the activity to the correct indicator(s), with the appropriate supporting information.

Coding issues

Where you have identified a coding issue, please provide details with your data amendment request (do not include patient information) and ensure that the appropriate actions are in place to resolve this for future extractions.

If you have not been able to identify the reason for incorrectly extracted data, please contact your clinical system supplier to help you investigate and resolve any issues for future extractions.

We are working on some further guidance following feedback received from you and we will issue this in due course.

Future extractions

To ensure that your future seasonal flu payments are not placed on hold please ensure that you are-

- adhering to the Seasonal Flu service specification and business rules and only delivering to agreed cohorts (links below)
- providing adequate training to your staff and so that they are aware of current business rules (links below)
- checking the extracted data every month and only declare for payment if it is correct, if the data is inaccurate and requires amendment, please submit the

appropriate manual data amendment request form with the appropriate supporting evidence

Service Specifications and Business Rules:

- Directed Enhanced Service Specification (DES) for the seasonal flu and pneumococcal vaccination programme 2020/21 (Version 3 now available) <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/directed-enhanced-service-specification-seasonal-influenza-and-pneumococcal-polysaccharide-vaccination-programme-2020-21/>
- 2020-21 Business Rules are here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-collections/quality-and-outcomes-framework-qof/quality-and-outcome-framework-qof-business-rules/enhanced-services-es-vaccination-and-immunisation-vi-and-core-contract-components-2020-20>

Submitting a manual data amendment

Please submit the appropriate manual data amendment request form with the appropriate supporting information.

BaNES, Gloucestershire, Swindon, Wiltshire and Dorset - please use the attached updated CQRS manual change sheet (V1.9) which now includes the new service indicators for Seasonal Flu and return to Public Health team
phcontractssouthwest@nhs.net

BSSG, Somerset, Devon and Kernow – please use the attached updated CQRS Data Amendment Form v3, and return to Primary Care team
england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net

UPDATE on PPV23 (Pneumovax) notification of limited supply and recommended actions

On behalf of the national team please find attached an updated Vaccine Supply Notification (VSN2020_001U Pneumovax 23,) regarding limited supply of PPV 23 vaccinations. Supplies remain very limited and are expected to be out of stock from mid-November 2020 until January 2021. Providers are asked that all remaining stock is prioritised for the vaccination of high-risk patients per PHE clinical prioritisation guidance. Please read the notification attached for more detail.

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DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk

Directed Enhanced Service Specification (DES) for Seasonal Flu & Pneumococcal Vaccination Programme updated – Version 3

An updated [Directed Enhanced Service Specification \(DES\) for the seasonal flu and pneumococcal vaccination programme 2020/21](#) has been published. This version (version 3) replaces the version published in September, and has been updated in part 2 to reflect

the arrangements for practices accessing, administering and claiming payment for administering centrally supplied flu vaccines in line with the [process laid out by the Department of Health and Social Care](#).

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

None

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None

- **Items for Gloucestershire Practices only**

None

- **Items for Somerset Practices only**

None

- **Items for Devon Practices only**

None

- **Items for Dorset Practices only**

None

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

None