### Message from PHE Screening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Advice for women following Covid-19 vaccination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Message source</td>
<td>PHE Breast Screening Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message recipients</td>
<td>See checklist below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Importance</td>
<td>☒ High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>A recent <a href="https://www.bmj.com">BMJ article</a>, reported that advice in the US is that breast screening appointments should be scheduled to take place before women receive a first dose of Covid-19 vaccine or 4 to 6 weeks after the second dose where possible. This is due to the potential reaction of enlarged lymph nodes (lymphadenopathy) on the side of the vaccination, which could cause unnecessary concern. This has also picked up by the UK press. For the vaccines approved for use in the UK, the frequency from the trials is estimated to be less than 1%.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Within England, breast screening service personnel are advised to be aware of the potential for enlarged nodes following a Covid-19 vaccination. However, the advice regarding the scheduling of mammograms has not altered. There is currently no requirement for women to be advised to wait for a period of time following a Covid-19 vaccination before attending a screening appointment.

As per usual practice, women with noted lymphadenopathy at screening must always be recalled for assessment even if they report recent vaccination. This is to ensure that no other pathology exists. It may be useful for clinicians at an assessment appointment to determine the date of a Covid-19 vaccination and the arm in which this was given, where enlarged lymph nodes are being investigated.

We will continue to monitor the evidence in this emerging area and take advice from relevant experts. Updates will be issued as necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action required</th>
<th>Services to ensure that this cascade message is shared with all relevant service personnel.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact for queries</td>
<td><a href="mailto:PHE.screeninghelpdesk@nhs.net">PHE.screeninghelpdesk@nhs.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message ref. number (IEPP to complete)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Distribution checklist: message to go to all checked groups below.

## IEPP to distribute to:

- ☒ NHSEI national team (for all emails to SILs, SIMs and NHS screening providers)
- ☐ PHE Screening all staff
- ☐ PHE screening helpdesk
- ☐ Bowel screening hub managers
- ☐ Bowel screening hub directors
- ☐ Lead midwives for education
- ☐ Sender defined group (tick this box, describe group below, and send contact list with this form)

**Description of the group:** YPA - BSP Cascade Distribution List

## ANNB – Newborn Hearing Screening Programme to distribute to:

- ☐ NHSP local managers
- ☐ NHSP team leaders
- ☐ NHSP audiologists
- ☐ NHSP screeners
- ☐ NHSP senior screeners
- ☐ NHSP learning mentors

## Regional SQAS to distribute (using Bcc) to:

Note: also Bcc message to relevant programme QA teams

**SQAS**

- ☒ Relevant heads and regional heads of QA
- ☒ Screening and immunisation leads
- ☒ Screening and immunisation managers

**Abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA)**

- ☐ Clinical directors
- ☐ Programme managers

**Diabetic eye screening (DES)**

- ☐ Programme managers
- ☐ Clinical leads

**ANNB - Antenatal & newborn**

- ☐ Heads of midwifery
- ☐ Screening co-ordinators
- ☐ Child health record departments

**ANNB - Fetal anomaly screening (FASP)**

- ☐ FASP screening laboratories
- ☐ FASP genomics laboratories
- ☐ FASP support sonographers

**ANNB - Infectious diseases in pregnancy (IDPS)**

- ☐ IDPS screening laboratories (microbiology, virology)
- ☐ IDPS reference laboratories
- ☐ Specialist nurses/midwives
- ☐ Hepatologists

**ANNB - Newborn screening (NBS)**

- ☐ NBS screening laboratories

**ANNB - Newborn & infant physical examination (NIPE)**

- ☐ Provider NIPE programme leads
- ☐ Provider NIPE Clinical Leads

**ANNB - Sickle cell & thalassemia (SCT)**

- ☐ SCT screening laboratories
- ☐ SCT DNA laboratories
- ☐ Haemoglobinopathy nurses/counsellors PND laboratories
- ☐ SCT specialist haemoglobinopathy centres (nursing)
- ☐ SCT specialist haemoglobinopathy centres (medical)

**Bowel cancer screening**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Breast screening</th>
<th>Cervical screening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prison managers</td>
<td>☒ Programme managers</td>
<td>☒ Lead cytopathologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison care nurses</td>
<td>☒ Breast care nurses</td>
<td>☐ Lead histopathologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast surgeons</td>
<td>☒ Breast surgeons</td>
<td>☐ Colposcopy co-ordinators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical directors</td>
<td>☐ Medical directors</td>
<td>☐ Lead colposcopists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office managers</td>
<td>☐ Office managers</td>
<td>☐ Lead colposcopy nurses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PACS managers</td>
<td>☐ PACS managers</td>
<td>☐ Cervical screening provider leads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathologists</td>
<td>☐ Pathologists</td>
<td>☐ Cervical screening provider leads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Cervical screening provider leads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Cervical Screening Administration Service (CSAS) screening managers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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