

Community Pharmacy Bulletin



9 April 2021



NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West

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Coming Up

	April	May	June
Week 1	Good Friday 2 April 2021 Easter Sunday 4 April 2021 Easter Monday 5 April 2021	Early May Bank Holiday Monday 3 May 2021	
Week 2			
Week 3			
Week 4			

	April	May	June
Week 5		Spring Bank Holiday Monday 31 May 2021	Data Security Toolkit deadline 30 June 2021

Headlines from the Week

NHS England

- [Improving the health of deprived communities](#)

NHS England South West Regional Team

- Specialist Medicines Service 2021/22 (sent 1 April 2021)

PSNC Bulletin

- [Medicines Use Review service now decommissioned](#)
- [Terms of service for DSPs changes from 1 April 2021](#)
- [35 products added to the April 2021 DND list](#)
- [Contractor Notice: SSP010: Levothyroxine 12.5mcg tablets expiring](#)
- [Participate in NHS Test & Trace research on Pharmacy Collect](#)
- [C-19 test distribution service – promotional materials](#)
- [Pharmacy Collect FAQs](#)
- [Encouraging patients to support Oxford/AZ vaccine study](#)
- [Pharmacy in Sheffield goes paperless](#)
- [BOPA 'Let's Communicate Cancer Series'](#)

Terms of Service for DSPs Change From 1 April 2021

From 1 April 2021, the NHS Terms of Service require Distance Selling Pharmacies (DSP) to have a website which includes content promoting healthy lifestyles.

In November last year, the [National Health Service \(Charges and Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020](#) introduced new requirements detailed in fourteen [PSNC Regs Explainer articles](#).

One set of changes related to the Healthy Living Pharmacy Level 1 (HLP) requirements, and specifically the promotion of healthy lifestyles:

- Pharmacies that are visited by patients and the public were required to provide a dedicated health promotion zone, of sufficient prominence and containing up-to-date professional health and wellbeing information that meets the needs of the population they serve. This requirement was effective from 1 January 2021
- DSPs, which may not provide Essential Services to patients and the public who are present on, or in the vicinity of, the pharmacy premises, were required to have a **website** for use by patients and the public accessing their services, which has an **interactive page**, clearly promoted to any user of the website when they first access it. This page must provide public access to a reasonable range of up-to-date materials that **promote healthy lifestyles**, by addressing a **reasonable range of health issues. This requirement came into effect from 1 April 2021**

The Regional team will be reviewing all websites to ensure that all contractors are compliant.

Covid-19

Community Pharmacy COVID-19 Lateral Flow Device Distribution

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin - 8 April 2021 (issue 121))

In order to improve access to testing for asymptomatic people, identify positive cases in the community and break the chain of transmission, the Community Pharmacy COVID-19 Lateral Flow Device Distribution Service has been commissioned until 30 June 2021 (inclusive).

NHS Test and Trace is making lateral flow devices (LFD) available through this service for collection from a community pharmacy. Tests will be administered away from the pharmacy. Patients who have symptoms of COVID will not be asked to attend a pharmacy.

The service will work alongside existing NHS Test and Trace COVID-19 testing routes. Community pharmacy contractors can [review the service specification here](#) with details of how to register to provide this service. Resources are now [available to download](#) to promote the service in your sites.

NHS Volunteer Responders Can Collect Prescribed Medications

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin - 1 April 2021 (issue 120))

Patients who are clinically vulnerable to COVID-19 can arrange for an NHS Volunteer Responder to collect their prescribed medication. Patients should register on the following number in preparation for their first medication delivery: 0808 196 3646. The [NHS Volunteer Responders programme](#) will continue until at least 31 May 2021.

Free COVID-19 PPE Scheme Extended Until the End of March 2022

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin - 8 April 2021 (issue 121))

The Government is extending the provision of free COVID-19 PPE to health and social care providers until the end of March 2022. Following the previous announcement of free PPE provision until the end of June 2021, the scheme will now be extended to the end of March 2022 as the expectation of clinical experts is that usage will remain high throughout the next financial year.

This will ensure that General Practice, dentists, community pharmacy and opticians can continue to access rigorously tested and high-quality PPE. Providers should continue to access COVID-19 PPE via their current distribution channels.

Seasonal Flu

Achievements and Developments During 2020/21 Season

The attached letter, "BW485-achievements-and-developments-during-202021-flu-season", provides information on Seasonal Flu 2020-2021 and guidance/information on 2021-2022 Seasonal Flu.

Quickly Signpost Patients with NHS Service Finder

(taken from Primary Care Bulletin - 8 April 2021 (issue 121))

Improvements have been made to [NHS Service Finder](#), which gives health and care staff access to accurate information when signposting patients to other local services. The latest release makes searching for services faster and simpler, search results are now easier to navigate, and there are also more options for filtering by service type and opening times.

Creating an account is quick and easy, and open to anyone working in health or social care. [Register](#) with your NHSmail email address for immediate access from your computer, smartphone or tablet. For more information, visit the [NHS Digital website](#) or email service.finder@nhs.net.

NIHR/HEE Integrated Clinical Academic (South West) Programme Awards for 2021

Many of you will have seen details of (and applied to) the recent Clinical Academic Career Pilot for Pharmacists that we are running in the region. In addition to this, there are awards that are available for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), in three categories.

The NIHR/HEE Integrated Clinical Academic (South West) programme awards are now open for applications for 2021.

These awards provide short-term support for those within the South West region aspiring to develop a clinical academic career and apply for national awards. There are three levels of awards available.

- [Internship award](#) (pdf) – for individuals with little or no research experience who want to gain an introduction to aspects of clinical research and/or explore a research idea
- [Pre-doctoral bridging award](#) (pdf) – for individuals who want to develop a doctoral fellowship application
- [Post-doctoral bridging award](#) (pdf) – for individuals are looking to undertake a post-doctoral fellowship

These awards are for professionals in the South West region but can be used with HEIs outside of the region. The closing date and time for submission of applications is midday on **Friday 28 May 2021**, completed applications should be submitted to ICA.HEESW@uwe.ac.uk

Useful Information



NHS England & Improvement – South West Region Community Pharmacy Contract Management Team contact information

Team Member	Telephone	Address
Jenny Collins	07979 308749	South West Region Postal Addresses NHS England and Improvement – South West Peninsula House
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Mary Cotton	07920 288191	Kingsmill Road Tamar View Industrial Estate Saltash, PL12 6LE Or NHS England and Improvement – South West Sanger House, 5220 Valiant Court Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth Gloucester, GL3 4FE Or NHS England and Improvement – South West Jenner House, Avon Way Langley Park Chippenham, SN15 1GG <i>Please note all our offices are currently closed, please do not send post and use email wherever possible</i> Email: england.pharmacysouthwest@nhs.net
Michele Toy	07568 431890	
Sarah Lillington	07920 834445	
Sharon Hodges	07702 411295	
Tracey Howes	07730 380479	
Chris Yengel	07769 963478	
Kath Hughes	07730 374739	
Hayley Colledge	07900 713005	
Lesley St Leger	07730 381871	
William Anderson	07783 821721	
Stacey Burch	07730 391418	

Webpages

Please see our websites for more information and any blank templates, forms and documents:

[Cornwall & Isles of Scilly, Devon, Bristol, Dorset, North Somerset, Somerset and South Gloucestershire](#)

[BaNES, Gloucestershire, Swindon or Wiltshire](#)

[Interpretation and Translation Services](#)

To:

- Chief Executives of all NHS trusts and foundation trusts
- Chief Nursing Officers of all NHS trusts and foundation trusts
- Medical Directors of all NHS trusts and foundation trusts
- All GP practices
- All community pharmacies

Copy to:

- NHS Regional Directors
- NHS Regional Directors of Commissioning
- NHS Regional Directors of Primary Care and Public Health Commissioning
- CCG Accountable Officers
- CCG Flu Leads
- Chairs of ICSs and STPs
- Chairs of NHS trusts and foundation trusts
- Regional Chief Pharmacists

1 April 2021

Dear colleagues,

Achievements and developments during 2020/21 season

The 2020/21 NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination Programme has been the most successful in the history of the programme. Despite the pandemic, the hard work and diligence by NHS and social care providers has resulted in our best uptake levels yet. In addition to implementing good practice identified from previous years, the 2020/21 programme was supported by new developments to information technology systems. For the first time, a national call/recall service to support primary care and school aged provision was implemented. In another first, NHS school age vaccination services used a NIVS to record data in a standardised and more timely manner resulting in much less duplication of effort and manual reporting. Informed by more timely data, the NHS has been able to offer vaccinations more successfully to eligible individuals regardless of where they live, their ethnicity, disability or other individual circumstances.

During 2021/22, the NHS will be undertaking further work to further increase uptake, improve equity, and build on the developments achieved so far in data and technology to get further granularity, accuracy and electronic interoperability of data.

JCVI advice on influenza vaccines for 2021/22

In November 2020 the JCVI published advice on the use of influenza vaccines in the UK for the 2021/22 season. NHS providers delivering influenza vaccinations to health

and social care professionals are encouraged to review the JCVI advice¹ and order vaccines in line with NHS England and NHS Improvement reimbursement guidance below.

Vaccines reimbursed as part of the NHS Seasonal Influenza Immunisation Programme 2021/22²

The following JCVI-advised vaccines will be reimbursed as part of the NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination Programme for adults in 2021/22.

Those aged 65 years and over	Those aged 50 to 64 years	At-risk adults, including pregnant women, aged 18 to less than 65 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aQIV • QIVc/QIVr (where aQIV is not available) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QIVc/QIVr • QIVe (where QIVc or QIVr is not available) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QIVc/QIVr • QIVe (where QIVc or QIVr is not available)

JCVI considered the use of QIV-HD in those aged 65. However QIV-HD is **not** currently available in the UK market.

JCVI also considered the use of QIVr in both those aged over 65 and those aged 18 to 64. QIVr was not initially eligible for reimbursement under the NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination programme for 2021/22, however doses of QIVr are now available to order in limited quantities and will be reimbursed. Providers should liaise with the manufacturer, Sanofi, to discuss their order.

Influenza vaccines for eligible children are centrally procured by Public Health England and are supplied free of charge via ImmForm. These vaccines will NOT be reimbursed as part of the NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination Programme.

Uptake ambitions for programme - vaccine ordering and planning

In planning for the forthcoming influenza vaccination season, all providers should identify and work closely with their designated CCG flu lead and their regional Public Health Commissioning Team, to ensure the effective planning and delivery of the 2021/22 NHS Annual Influenza Vaccination Programme.

General practices and community pharmacies will also want to work closely with their Primary Care Networks in order to maximise vaccine coverage and to minimise vaccine

¹ <https://app.box.com/s/t5ockz9bb6xw6t2mrrzb144njplimfo0/file/737845224649>

² Prices and suppliers of the vaccines can be found here: <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/medicinal-forms/influenza-vaccine.html>

wastage. This will also support the achievement of incentives within their respective contracts. PCN coverage targets incentivised through the Investment and Impact Fund (IIF) are detailed in the table below for each cohort.

Indicator	Value	Thresholds
VI-01: Percentage of patients aged 65 or over who received a seasonal influenza vaccination between 1 September and 31 March	40 points £9.0m	80% 86%
VI-02: Percentage of patients aged 18 to 64 years and in a clinical at-risk group who received a seasonal influenza vaccination between 1 September and 31 March	88 points £19.8m	57% 90%
VI-03: Percentage of children aged 2-3 who received a seasonal influenza vaccination between 1 September and 31 March	14 points £3.2m	45% 82%

For more detail about the IIF incentives, including allowable Personalised Care Adjustments, coding requirements, and cohort definitions, refer to the IIF guidance

All providers should plan their influenza vaccine ordering to at least equal the high levels of uptake achieved in 2020/21. For frontline healthcare workers, providers should plan to achieve a 100% offer of vaccination to all appropriate staff groups. School aged influenza vaccination services should plan to achieve at least 75% uptake across all commissioned year groups.

Hospital trusts should continue to vaccinate pregnant women under their care and in addition should work with their regional Public Health Commissioning Teams to offer vaccinations to all those eligible individuals considered clinically at risk through in and out-patient appointments. Trusts should ensure they order sufficient vaccines to fulfil their contractual obligations in this regard.

Manufacturers will start to produce volumes of vaccines shortly based on the orders they have received. Please submit your order as soon as possible.

[Manufacturers have provided the following information about how they can support you with additional vaccine:](#)

Manufacturer	Notes
Mylan	Mylan have some doses of QIVe available that can be used for this cohort. Please contact their flu customer services team who will be able to help you place your order on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freephone: 0800 358 7468 • E-mail: flu@mylan.com
Seqirus	In the first instance Seqirus will contact existing customers who already have a QIVc order to facilitate any amends.
Sanofi Pasteur	Sanofi Pasteur will be fulfilling current orders for the 2021/2022 season with QIVe or QIVr (Supemtek), you can contact Sanofi Pasteur with any questions around current or future orders through your local representative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaxishop • Tel: 0800 854 430 (option 1)

For reference, the 2021/22 uptake expectations and achievements for each cohort as of 24 March 2021 are as follows:

Eligible groups	2020/21 season uptake	2020/21 uptake ambition
Aged 65 years and over	81%	At least 75%
Under 65 clinical at-risk group	52%	At least 75%
Pregnant women	44%	At least 75%
Aged 50 to 64 years	34%	N/A
Children aged 2 and 3 years old	58%*	At least 75%
All primary school aged children from reception to year 6 (January data not currently available)	75% ambition	At least 75%
Frontline health care workers	100% offer	100% offer

* based on the higher 3 year old uptake

Community pharmacies should plan their ordering on the basis of meeting at least the numbers of vaccinations they achieved during the 2020/21 season. Community pharmacy are expected to play a strong role in vaccinating the 50 to 64 year old cohorts to ensure the availability of general practice capacity to continue their focus on flu and COVID vaccination of the most vulnerable clinical cohorts.

As with 2020/21, there may be further policy developments to ensure strong uptake across all eligible cohorts during 2021/22. These developments will be informed by the levels and impact of COVID-19 in communities. In this situation, further advice will be communicated as soon as possible.

Further information will be provided on the policy decisions on offering an alternative to LAIV for children whose parent/guardian does not consent to the vaccine on grounds of objection to the porcine gelatine content, and on extending the complementary offer of a free NHS vaccination to adult social care workers in 2021/22.

Yours faithfully,



Professor Stephen Powis
National Medical Director
NHS England and NHS Improvement