



# Public Health GP Bulletin

*Issue 67: 10th December 2021*

## Section 7a: Screening & Immunisations

### **About this bulletin:**

This weekly bulletin is the NHSE/I South West Integrated Public Health Team's main method of communicating with Practice Managers in BNSSG, BSW, Cornwall & IOS, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Somerset.

The bulletin contains important Public Health information relating to Section 7a Screening and Immunisation programmes 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 at [england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net](mailto:england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net)

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### ICARS COVID-19 Newsletter

We are pleased to bring you the latest updates from our ICARS service. This newsletter is attached to your email along with associated documents.

## School Aged Immunisation Pathways 2021-22

In last week's bulletin we shared with you the 2021/22 pathways for school aged immunisations delivered across the south west. Unfortunately, the Cornwall pathway was not attached therefore we have now included this and re-attached all other areas again for your information. Please review the document for your relevant locality to support local practices in understanding the school aged immunisations programme and the commissioning arrangements that are in place where a child or young person is no longer part of the school aged Immunisation programme. In some instances, practices are already commissioned to deliver to that group or opportunistic vaccination may be supported and paid as an Item of Service fee. Please note that this may differ across regions so please review your locality pathway. If you have any questions about the school aged immunisation service please contact your school aged immunisation team using the contact details provided on page 9 of your pathways document. Please share this information with the Immunisation lead at your practice.

## Shingles Immunisation Programme: Introduction of Shingrix

From 1 September 2021, all patients aged 70 to 79 years of age who are eligible for shingles vaccination but are unable to receive the live vaccine Zostavax due to their immunocompromised status, should be offered the non-live shingles vaccine Shingrix. In line with the current programme, the Shingrix vaccine should be offered via a proactive call to those becoming eligible at 70 years of age, and should also be offered opportunistically or if requested for those over 70 years until the age of 80. Ensuring high uptake of shingles vaccination is particularly important in this group, due to the higher incidence of herpes zoster. For further details on individuals who should be offered Shingrix instead of Zostavax, please refer to the [Green Book of immunisation - Chapter 28a Shingles \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/green-book-of-immunisation-chapter-28a-shingles)

Shingrix is now available to order online via the [ImmForm](https://www.immform.org/) website. It is important that Shingrix is given only to those who are clinically contraindicated for Zostavax, in order to ensure sufficient supply for those who need to receive it.

You should continue to offer Zostavax to eligible patients for whom there are no contraindications. Ongoing efforts are needed to identify and vaccinate all eligible individuals who have not yet been vaccinated, to ensure a continuing reduction in the number of cases of this condition. We encourage providers to take every opportunity to offer shingles vaccination to eligible patients throughout the year to help protect as many older people as possible. Please find attached with this GP bulletin a leaflet for patients with information on the Shingrix vaccine, and a shingles vaccination appointment card which can be used as a reminder for patients.

## Ambition targets for the 2021/22 Flu Season

Please see attached document.