



Public Health GP Bulletin

Issue 78: 25th February 2022

About this bulletin:

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

Contents:

- ICARS COVID-19 Newsletter
- On behalf of Deborah Tomalin, Director of Public Health Commissioning and Operations
- UPDATE: 4-1 Scheduling issue
- Updated Routine Immunisations schedule published

ICARS COVID-19 Newsletter

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

On behalf of Deborah Tomalin, Director of Public Health Commissioning and Operations

Please cascade the following message to your staff -

I wanted to offer a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in delivering this year's flu vaccination programme.

Delivering the biggest flu programme ever is no mean feat in any circumstances, but alongside delivery of a world beating Covid-19 vaccination programme - and all the other pressures of the job - this is particularly impressive and testament to your hard work and dedication.

We have seen record numbers of these vital jabs given, in particular to people over 65s, which is an amazing achievement - thanks to our amazing primary care flu services and staff in Trusts who have delivered the flu jab to patients and pregnant women.

I also wanted to call out our brilliant NHS school vaccination teams, and the schools they have worked with, across the country. I know that delivering flu jabs to our young people has been more challenging this year as we continued to battle with Covid and the need to deliver the Covid vaccination programme as well. But you have worked tirelessly to give the flu vaccine to more school-aged children than ever before. I recognise the tremendous amount of effort involved for which, I am sure, parents are extremely grateful.

Flu is an unpredictable virus that can kill, and the flu vaccination is the best defence against it, so a big thank you to all who have helped protect so many.

UPDATE: 4-1 Scheduling issue

Since May 2021 we have been investigating an issue whereby some CHIS providers using System C have identified instances of children being incorrectly scheduled for a 4-1 primary vaccination after 01 August 2017. Should this have not been investigated there was a risk that children may have been incorrectly vaccinated and left unprotected. CHIS in the South West has undertaken an audit relating to primary vaccinations - specifically 4-1s - after a historic issue with Care Plus scheduling was identified. The audit looked at children who were scheduled for a 4-1 vaccine after changes to the national schedule were made in 2017 and sought to clarify if they were correctly immunised. CHIS has identified some children whose 4-1 vaccine status needs checking and if any are registered at your practice they will send you the relevant details and their query. This only equates to approximately 40 practices across the South West. CHIS will discuss the information they have recorded on Care Plus with you but clinical advice can also be sought from england.swicars@nhs.net. Practices are reminded that the notifications/scheduling on vaccines due from CHIS are advisory only and the practice is accountable for the checking of clinical records and immunisations due.

Updated Routine Immunisations schedule published

The routine childhood immunisation schedule has been updated and published. This includes the changes to BCG, Rotavirus, and pre-screening for SCID issues. The updated document also includes the most recent vaccines to support the programmes.

[The complete routine immunisation schedule from February 2022 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk)