



# Public Health GP Bulletin

*Issue 82: 25th March 2022*

## 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.

## NIPE Checks Done Virtually

We have been made aware by the National ANNB Screening Programme Team of some incidents elsewhere in the country that the GP 6-8 week Newborn and Infant Physical Examination (NIPE) check has not been a face to face examination. Please could we respectfully remind all those involved in booking NIPE appointments and undertaking NIPE checks that these must be done as a face to face consultation to ensure all elements of the NIPE check can be completed to national guidance requirements. If there are any queries, please contact the Screening and Immunisation Team on: [england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net](mailto:england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net)

## 2022-2025 Essential Services now available for sign up on CQRS

Please see the following attached document:

*20220325\_PH GP Bulletins comms\_22-25 ES Sign-up\_22-23 Flu Cohorts\_CQRS year end reminder\_PPV23 Reminder*

## World TB Day 24th March 2022

Dear colleagues,

Please see attached a newsletter regarding World TB Day which was on 24th March 2022.

We are asking for your help to raise awareness of TB in your community, which is more important than ever, particularly when healthcare services have had to focus on the coronavirus pandemic.

People with TB symptoms are more likely to mistake these for Covid-19.

Please help us to support individuals with TB symptoms, their families and our communities to improve their health and well-being by sharing this information.

The newsletter includes information for CCGs, local authorities, GPs, homeless organisations and charities and we thank you for helping us to support the global strategy for TB

World TB Day 24th March 2022

“Think TB! Not every cough is Covid-19”

This World TB Day, we’re sharing the message that not every cough is Covid-19 and encouraging clinicians to consider TB when making a diagnosis.

Every year, worldwide, 4 million people with TB are not diagnosed and each of them can infect up to 15 others. This is due to a variety of reasons including people with TB not accessing care, delays in diagnosis

Symptoms of TB, Covid-19 are often similar, and it is possible for TB to be overlooked which may result in diagnostic delay

- TB remains an important public health emergency; UKHSA and NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) are addressing TB control through the [National Action Plan](#) and [WHO End TB Strategy](#)
- Homelessness, substance misuse and imprisonment increases risk of TB.
- The steady decline in TB rates in England is faltering; this will delay achievement of WHO TB elimination goals
- Tuberculosis (TB), remains a global health emergency affecting a quarter of the world's population
- In 2020, deaths due to TB ranked second to Covid-19 for an infectious disease.
- TB is the 13th leading cause of death worldwide
- The number of deaths from TB increased in 2020 with 1.4 million deaths reported compared to 1.3 million deaths in 2019. This is the first year-on-year increase in deaths since 2005.
- TB rates in England remain some of the highest in western Europe

[Slide reference: WHO Global Tuberculosis Report 2021](#)

- The RCGP developed an online course for GPs to improve the prevention, diagnosis and management of TB- you can access it here <https://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/course/info.php?id=107>

**For more information please contact:**

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