For any COVID-19 vaccination related queries, or to escalate an incident, please contact ICARS at england.swicars@nhs.net.

Please note that this service operates 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

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NEW: New Government and NHS marketing resources available for seasonal flu and COVID campaign

On Sunday, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) unveiled campaign material to bolster the current seasonal campaign. You can read the press release here and the resources are now available on UKHSA’s Campaign Resource Centre. These links and other new resources, including a stakeholder toolkit developed with DHSC and NHSE, are available on the VDP workspace, CommsLink (for communications professionals) and will be added to this week’s refresh of our core campaign toolkit.

We also celebrated the delivery of 10 million booster vaccinations with a new video and press notice featuring Steve Russell, encouraging others to come forward and another video on NHS England’s social platforms with Nikki Kanani showing what happens at a co-administered flu and COVID vaccine appointment, while attending her own. Please do keep re-sharing such content on your own channels and keep promoting local and regional milestones in the same way.

NEW: Combined needle and syringes: Caina and Prosum

GBUK, who supply both the Caina and Prosum syringes, have advised the following regarding the design of their combined needle and syringes supplied for use with COVID 19 vaccines:

- The dead space in the Caina syringe is smaller than in the Prosum, and therefore leads to greater efficiency. Less liquid is lost in the dead space in the Caina syringe, than is lost in the Prosum syringe.
- Both the Caina syringes and the Prosum syringes have been tested and meet the ISO 7886-1:2017 standard for capacity tolerance.

It important to note that only the recommended number of vaccine doses should be drawn up and administered from each vial. See UKHSA Which COVID-19 vaccine poster for further details on each product.

NEW: Eligibility for children aged 5 to 11 years old not in a clinical risk group

This is a reminder that the Green Book, Chapter 14a, states children aged 5-11 years old who are not in a clinical risk group are eligible for a primary COVID-19 dose if they turned five years of age before the end of 31 August 2022.

If they turned five on or after 1 September 2022, they are not eligible unless they are in a clinical risk group or living with someone who is immunosuppressed.
It is possible that some children/their parents who are not eligible may have booked an COVID-19 vaccination appointment through NBS and therefore sites are reminded to verify eligibility in line with the Green Book.

**REMINDER: Vaccination of healthcare workers for COVID-19**

This is a reminder that all frontline healthcare workers should be offered the COVID-19 booster vaccination, allowing a minimum of three months from the previous dose. Please reference Greenbook for further details. Providers should aim to vaccinate healthcare workers before December 2022. Previous JVCI guidance issued suggested vaccination of healthcare workers closer to the winter to optimise benefits of protection over the winter. However, as we are now experiencing rising levels of infection, the advice is for healthcare workers to be vaccinated as soon as possible to allow for the period of two to three weeks before full benefit. Vaccination opportunities should then be offered to those healthcare workers who have not received the seasonal booster up to the end of January.

All frontline healthcare workers should also be offered the seasonal flu vaccination. Where possible COVID-19 and flu vaccines should be co-administered but neither vaccination should be delayed enabling this.

Further details of the resources available to providers to vaccinate their staff is available below:

- Healthcare worker COVID-19 and seasonal flu vaccination in Trusts letter
- Trust Webinar HCW vaccinations
- Healthcare worker communications and engagement resources

**UPDATE: Covid-19 Vaccination: Information for HCPs**

The COVID-19 Vaccination: Information for Healthcare Practitioners document has been updated and available on via the [gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk). The document includes detailed information on:

- the background of the programme
- the vaccines (as they become available)
- vaccine recommendations and eligibility
- contraindications and precautions
- vaccine administration issues

**UPDATE: Surge planning toolkit**

The surge toolkit has been updated to reflect the surge planning parameters that are in place to support with workforce planning and can be found on [FutureNHS](https://www.futurerhs.org.uk).

This document replaces all previous versions and updates include:
- Information on civil service, volunteers and the GoodSAM app has been removed, as we are no longer in crisis mode
- Now includes the latest POD model design
- List of ICB’s that have reservist models set up has been added as a link

NEW: Notification of vaccination invites, prompts and reminders due this week

The below notifications are due to arrive in the current period. Sites are asked to load NBS and LBS appointment slots and walk-in capacity to accommodate potential increases in demand, ensuring adequate capacity outside of school hours for younger cohorts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort</th>
<th>Volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autumn/Winter Boosters</td>
<td>Circa 1.1m SMS &amp; e-mails to arrive 25 - 27 October and letters 28 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn/Winter Boosters Reminder</td>
<td>74k SMS &amp; e-mails to arrive 26 October and letters to arrive 29 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen 16+ Learning Disabled</td>
<td>26k letters to arrive 28 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn/Winter Boosters 2nd Reminder</td>
<td>Circa 0.8m SMS &amp; e-mails to arrive 27-28 October and letters 31 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boosters 16+ and 5-15 At Risk &amp; Severely Immunosuppressed</td>
<td>Circa 30k SMS &amp; e-mails to arrive 28 October and letters 02 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Dose Prompts 5-17 at risk Including Severely Immunosuppressed</td>
<td>Circa 1k e-mails to arrive 28 October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Look ahead *may be subject to amendment*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort</th>
<th>Volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autumn Winter Boosters</td>
<td>Circa 0.7m SMS &amp; e-mails to arrive 01-03 November and letters 05 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn Winter Booster reminders</td>
<td>Circa 1.9m SMS &amp; e-mails to arrive 02-04 November and letters 07 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn Winter booster 2nd reminder</td>
<td>Circa 1.37m SMS &amp; e-mails to arrive 03-04 November and letters 07 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Dose Prompts 18+ and 5-17 Not at Risk</td>
<td>Circa 14k SMS and e-mails to arrive 04 November and letters 09 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-15 At Risk &amp; 16+ Boosters 1st &amp; 2nd Reminders</td>
<td>&lt;90k SMS &amp; e-mails to arrive 04 November and letters 09 November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEW: Making Every Contact Count (MECC) - Call for evidence

A call for evidence exercises for MECC is currently underway and communications with regards to this have been sent to Regional Directors of Commissioning who in turn will share the Call for Evidence exercise pack with their sites. The purpose of this exercise is to understand how MECC interventions are working in vaccination sites across the country since its roll out in April
REMINDER: New Bulk Cancellation Feature in Q-Flow

After listening to user feedback, we have now added new functionality for site managers to bulk cancel appointments in Q-Flow. However, this should be performed as a final step after a site has explored all other options to honour bookings. Please find the updated guidance here.
NEW: Security Update and Reminders

To maintain site security, all vaccination sites or roving and mobile models are asked to:

- ensure site security leads review current site security plans and risk assessments
- confirm that all staff are aware of all security arrangements contained within the site security plan
- ensure current lockdown procedures are reviewed and communicated to staff
- confirm that liaison and good communication with the local Police force and Local Resilience Forum is maintained
- ensure procedures for the safe and secure storage of vaccines and other equipment is followed
- contact the local Police immediately using the 999 system if anti-vax protestors attend the site and cause disruption.

Further security advice and guidance can be found on the FutureNHS site

Please report any security incidents to NVOC via the SBAR reporting system.

REMINDER: Workforce support to LVS

There is a national workforce support offer available to LVS to provide additional capacity, over and above local staffing, which includes additional trained (clinical and non-clinical) staff and volunteers ready to be deployed from NHS Volunteer Responders delivered through Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) and St John Ambulance (SJA)

All workforce queries should be directed to your Lead Employer in the first instance but please do contact the team directly if you have any challenges or feedback via PCNCP.workforceescalation@nhs.net

REMINDER: Changes to managing vaccine calendars in Q-Flow

Q-Flow was updated on 20 October to give site managers with responsibility to manage age-based calendar activation, in accordance with the sites approved assurances.

If sites want to allow 5-11, 12-15 or 16-17 year old children and young people to book appointments on the National Booking Service then a self-assessment readiness checklist must be completed and sites must work with regional teams to be assured and approved to vaccinate these age-based cohorts.

Once the correct assurance and approvals are in place site managers can edit the age attribute in the Content Management area of Q-Flow (see screenshot below) by clicking on the yellow edit box. It will then allow the calendar availability to publish onto the NBS.
Please note there is no action required for existing sites that are already vaccinating these cohorts. Site settings will remain set to True, but they will now be visible to site managers.

Regional teams can be given visibility of which sites are using this function correctly with a new Site age attribute report.

Information and step by step guidance can be found in the Q-Flow Operational Guidance and Setting Age-based Attributes pages.

If you have questions or need support with the information provided, support is available Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1:30 to 2:00. Please follow this link to join the meetings.

NEW: Help improve Point of Care system experience for staff

Do you work on the vaccination programme? Are you doing any of the following:

- Capturing and reporting on COVID-19 vaccination events through a Point of Care (PoC) system?
- Administering your organisation’s PoC system?
- Involved in the decision making on which PoC to use in your organisation, or likely to be involved if you decide to switch, or are switching, which POC you use?

We would love to get your feedback and insights to help us improve Point of Care (POC) systems, the training and support provided, and the awareness and ability to switch the system used in your organisation.

Interested in taking part? Take our POC Experience and Switching Survey which should only take 10-15 minutes to complete.

If you have any questions regarding this research, please contact ross.philip1@nhs.net

NEW: Webinars and Training

1. Vaccination programme shared learning community webinar 2 November
The next learning community webinar will be held on Wednesday 2 November, 2pm-3pm 'Actionable Insights: Embedding the Learning from the COVID-19 vaccination programme'. Please register via the following link.

Recordings of previous learning community webinars are available to view, along with all supporting resources on the Shared Learning Platform including:

- I'm interested in Quality Improvement (QI). How do I get started? link
- Enhancing Patient Safety – link

If you have a suggestion for a future webinar subject, please email c6.cag@nhs.net

2. UPDATE: Training

The COVID-19: vaccinator competency assessment tool has recently been updated including:

- the content has been transferred to UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) format and all branding and references to PHE changed to UKHSA;
- the assessment tool has been expanded to allow recording of completed e-learning Core Knowledge module and assessment (or equivalent other training);
- and vaccine names updated in line with currently available supplies.

The COVID-19: vaccinator training recommendations has recently been updated with minor changes to wording and document links.