

South West Public Health

Section 7a Screening & Immunisations Bulletin



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ICARS Newsletter 18/11/2022

Please find this week's ICARS newsletter attached to this email.

National call and recall for 2 and 3 year olds as part of the seasonal flu programme – FROM 25TH NOVEMBER

To support uptake of flu vaccination for 2 and 3 year olds this season, the national team are again sending communications to parents and guardians of children not yet vaccinated this season, encouraging them to contact their child's general practice to make an appointment. Practices can then book appointments for vaccination in line with their planned and future clinics. Text messages and emails will be sent from the 25th November and letters to those without a valid mobile phone number (expected to land the 28th).

Fluenz vaccine ordering

It has been noted that some GP practices have reached their quota for ordering the flu vaccine for 2 - 3 year olds and unable to order anymore on Immform. In this instance, Immform can be e-mailed directly to ask to order more supplies as they are able to override the system quota. If this does not work, please escalate to your local flu lead who can raise this with the Screening & Immunisations team within NHS England.

2023/24 Seasonal Flu vaccine ordering

We are aware that vaccine manufacturers are marketing their vaccines for the 2023/24 flu season. We do not advise that you commit to a specific product or products ahead of publication of the National Re-imbursement letter. We would recommend that if Practices are placing orders at this point in time you ensure your order is provisional and there is flexibility for the order to be changed subsequently if required when the new reimbursement letter is issued.

We do not have a firm date for the issue of the letter, it will be published on www.gov.uk as usual and we will circulate via the bulletin.

Vaccine errors – recognising the importance of checking a patient's records

The ICARs service receives a frequent number of incidents reported to them where a dose has been incorrectly administered or a person given a duplicate due to records not being checked before administration. This can often occur where a patient is given a vaccine remotely – for example in a care home or their own residence. Many examples include elements where questions may have been asked of the patient (e.g. have you received any vaccines recently) and an answer given and so a vaccine offered on this basis, which later which did not match the records.

It is strongly recommended that all sites that deliver vaccines review their SOPs to ensure that checking the patient's records is core to their administration processes, including where paper and electronic records need to be cross checked.

For Action: Examples of increasing imms uptake in people with learning disability and autism

We are currently collating information around raising awareness and improving uptake amongst people with a learning disability and autism. We are very keen to hear about any examples of good practice, case studies and / or resources that you are using to support people with learning disabilities and autism to access the routine immunisation programmes.

Examples could include how reasonable adjustments are made and implemented, how individual needs are considered, which resources are shared to support patients, how clinics are planned and run etc.

Please send any good practice and resources to england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net by the COP on Wednesday 23rd November 2022.

Further Information

Back issues of these bulletins and attachments are available on the NHSEI website [here](#).

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Integrated Public Health Team at england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net