

South West Vaccination & Screening Team

Section 7a Bulletin



Issue 144: 10th July 2023

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ICARS Newsletter

Please find attached this week's ICARS newsletter.

FOR ACTION: Important CQRS Notification for all practices

This is a notification regarding the Public Health Section 7a immunisation services that NHS England-South West commission from you via the Calculating Quality Reporting Service (CQRS)

Important information for **BNSSG, Devon, Kernow and Somerset practices**

As you may be aware, as of 1 July 2023, NHS England has delegated the commissioning of Primary Care Pharmacy, Optometry and Dentistry (POD) Services to ICB's. Prior to this date BNSSG, Devon, Kernow and Somerset ICB area CQRS processes were managed by the NHS England South West Primary Care Team. From 1 July 2023, these services will be managed by the South West Vaccination and Screening Team (VaST). The VaST already operate the CQRS functions for BSW, Gloucestershire and Dorset.

As part of this change the Primary Care mailbox will be retired. In future, all CQRS related Vaccination and Immunisation queries and amendments requests should be sent to england.swcQRS@nhs.net.

Important information for all South West practices

From 1st July 2023, the NHS England South West Integrated Public Health and Screening & Immunisations Team has changed its name to the South West Vaccination & Screening Team (abbreviated to SW VaST). Please note that from this date, our old **generic mailbox** phcontractssouthwest@nhs.net **will no longer be used**.

From 1st July, please send any CQRS related emails to:

england.swcqs@nhs.net

Please update your contact lists accordingly.

All requests for amendments submitted from 1 July 2023 will require supporting evidence in the form of a screenshot from your clinical system. Please note, supporting evidence must not contain any patient identifiable data. Please use the tab on the claim form to provide your evidence.

New PGD authorised for NHS medical practices in the South West of England

This e-mail relates to NHS vaccinations. Please share this e-mail with appropriate staff in your practice

Your team can now download a new Patient Group Direction (PGD) that has been authorised for the vaccination of patients registered with NHS medical practices in the South West of England - <https://www.england.nhs.uk/south/info-professional/pgd/south-west/downloads/>

Before staff use this, your organisation should ensure that those members of staff have signed section 7, and that this has been counter-signed by an authorising manager.

Note that PGDs can only be used as legal authorisation for administration or supply of prescription-only medicines by a [limited number](#) of registered health professions. Other staff that cannot prescribe will require a patient specific direction (guidance [here](#)).

One new PGD has been authorised for a range of registered healthcare professionals to use.

- 1. MenACWY PGD V5.00 (Menveo[®], Nimenrix[®], MenQuadfi[®]) – valid from 31 July 2023**

For the administration of meningococcal groups A, C, W and Y conjugate vaccine (MenACWY) to individuals eligible for the national routine MenACWY vaccination programme or identified as a contact of a case of invasive meningococcal disease, in accordance with the Green

Book and [Guidance for Public Health Management of Meningococcal Disease in the UK](#).

Changes from V4.00:

- include particulars pertaining to an additional licensed MenACWY conjugate vaccine (MenQuadfi®)
- include considerations for individuals previously immunised with MenACWY conjugate vaccine
- amend NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) to NHSE following completion of merger on 1 July 2022
- replace Public Health England and PHE with UKHSA, including branding and updated contact details
- include minor rewording of standard text, layout and formatting changes for clarity and consistency with organisation change and other UKHSA PGDs

Vaccine supply information for the 2023 to 2024 Children's Flu programme

Vaccines and availability

All flu vaccines for the 2023/24 children's flu programme will be available to order by NHS providers in England via UKHSA's ImmForm website. The two vaccines available, indicative ordering dates and the groups these vaccines should be ordered for are shown in the table below.

We would encourage children's vaccinations as early as possible in the flu season, however, we appreciate that timings are subject to change and plans for vaccination sessions should take account of this.

Vaccine	Manufacturer	Available to order for	Anticipated order opening for all providers
Fluenz® Tetra (LAIV)	AstraZeneca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children from 2 years of age to school year 11; and, • Children in clinical risk groups aged 2 to <18 years* 	Early September
Cell Based Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine (Surface Antigen,	Seqirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children in clinical risk groups aged 6 months to <2 years • All other eligible** children aged 2 to <18 years for whom LAIV is unsuitable 	Early September

Inactivated) (QIVc)			
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*unless LAIV clinically contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable

** Children from 2 years of age to school year 11, and children in clinical risk groups aged 2 to <18 years.

LAIV ordering information for General Practice

As in previous seasons, ordering controls will be in place for General Practices, to enable UKHSA to balance supply with demand. These controls work by allocating an amount of LAIV based on the number of registered eligible patients and are tailored to each practice.

UKHSA expects to be able to accommodate the following, however at this time, this information remains subject to change:

- each GP Practice will initially be allocated sufficient LAIV to vaccinate at least 50% of their eligible patients (all 2 and 3-year-olds, plus children in clinical risk groups from age 4 to <18 years) when ordering commences.
- increases to these allocations may be made in response to demand and vaccine availability.

Requests for extra vaccine will be considered on a case-by-case basis throughout the ordering period. Requests for additional vaccine should be sent to the helpdesk (helpdesk@immform.org.uk) and should be sent in good time before your order cut-off. Out of schedule deliveries will be by exception only.

Multi-Branch Practices and LAIV allocations

Please note that GP Practices or groups that operate over multiple sites but are part of the same organisation will have a joint allocation (as in previous years), even where each site has a unique ImmForm account. This means that it is possible for one site to potentially order all of the available vaccine for the group, unless there is local agreement on how the allocated volume is shared. UKHSA recommend that this agreement is in place before ordering opens to reduce the risk of supply interruption. The information above allows Practices to estimate the amount of vaccine they will be initially allocated, and how it should be split between all sites.

Inactivated flu vaccine ordering

The Cell Based Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine (Surface Antigen, Inactivated) (QIVc) will be available to order, **in a single dose pack**, for:

- children in clinical risk groups aged from six months to less than 2 years old;
- children aged from 2 to <18 years old in clinical risk groups for whom LAIV is clinically contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable; and
- healthy children from 2 years old to those in school year 11, for whom LAIV is unsuitable (for example, due to objection to LAIV on the grounds of its porcine gelatine content)

Order controls will also be in place and there will be an initial cap of 10 doses/packs per week.

For the latest and most accurate information on the availability of centrally supplied vaccines for the Children's Flu Programme please go to the [ImmForm news](#) page at all times and UKHSA has strongly advised that all parties involved in the provision of influenza vaccines to children ensure they remain up to date with this information.

Further Information

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the SW Vast team at england.swvast@nhs.net. Back issues of these bulletins and attachments are available on the NHS England website [here](#). **Please note that if there are no items for your information a GP Bulletin will not be circulated.**