

South West Vaccination & Screening Team

Section 7a Bulletin


South West Collaborative
Commissioning Hub



Issue 156: 29th September 2023

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ICARS Newsletter

Please find attached this week's ICARS newsletter and associated documents.

National Flu Incidents

We have been advised that some incidents have been reported nationally of LAIV having been given to those aged 18 years old when the children's programme ends at 17 years old. In addition, there have been incidents of those aged 65+ receiving the QIVe vaccine instead of the recommended aQIV or QIVr vaccines.

Please ensure that the correct vaccine is given to the correct cohorts, as outlined here: [Flu vaccines 2023 to 2024 season \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk).

If an incorrect vaccine is given to a patient in the South West, this should be reported to our Immunisation Clinical Advice Response service (ICARS) at england.swicars@nhs.net.

COVID-19 PGD and National Protocol v3.00 (Adults, includes Com 30 XBB)

We are pleased to be able to inform you that the updated PGD and National Protocol for COVID-19 (Adults) v3.00 have now been published, to include Comirnaty XBB 30 micrograms/dose. Copies are attached for your convenience.

- The **PGD** may be found here: [Coronavirus » Patient Group Directions \(PGDs\) for COVID-19 vaccines \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/patient-group-directions-covid-19-vaccines/)
- **National Protocol** link: [National protocol for COVID-19 vaccine \(adults\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-protocol-for-covid-19-vaccine-adults)
- The vaccine **SOPs and vaccine characteristics** information provided by Specialist Pharmacy Service can be found [here](#).

An update to include Moderna XBB is anticipated to be published next week.

As the National Protocol has been given Ministerial approval and the NHSE PGD is signed off by the medical director, organisational sign off is not required for use in England. However, providers should not amend or add to the clinical content of the documents. Only section 7 of both documents is editable. Vaccinating teams should read the new documents, familiarise themselves with all of the updates, and complete the authorisation process ahead of using the Comirnaty® 30 XBB.1.5 vaccine from **week commencing 2 October**.

NEW: COVID-19 PGD and National Protocol v2.00 (5 – 17 Year Olds, Includes XBB)

The PGD and National Protocol enabling vaccination of children and young people aged 5 to 17 years have now been approved for publication. These documents have been updated to include Comirnaty XBB 10 and 30 micrograms per dose. Copies are attached for your convenience.

- The **PGD** is attached and available here: [Coronavirus » Patient Group Direction: COVID-19 vaccine \(5 to 17 years of age\) \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/patient-group-directions-covid-19-vaccine-5-17-years-of-age/)
- **National Protocol** attached and here: [National protocol for COVID-19 mRNA vaccine \(5 to 17 years of age\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-protocol-for-covid-19-mrna-vaccine-5-17-years-of-age)
- The vaccine **SOPs and vaccine characteristics** information provided by Specialist Pharmacy Service can be found [here](#).

As the National Protocol has been given Ministerial approval and the NHSE PGD is signed off by the medical director, organisational sign off is not required for use in England. However, providers should not amend or add to the clinical content of the documents. Only section 7 of both documents is editable.

Vaccinating teams should read the new documents, familiarise themselves with all of the updates, and complete the authorisation process ahead of using the **Comirnaty® 30 XBB.1.5 vaccine from 2 October** and **Comirnaty® 10 XBB.1.5 vaccine from 5 October**.

Further Information

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the SW Vaccination and Screening 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.**