

# South West Vaccination & Screening Bulletin

  
South West Collaborative  
Commissioning Hub



*Issue 161: 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023*

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No items.

#### VACCINATIONS:

## **NHS Vaccination Programme (MMR) – UKHSA letter on preparing for a measles resurgence**

Please find attached a letter produced by UKHSA, co-signed by Dr Steve Powis, to offer guidance to NHS Trusts, Primary Care and professional organisations on preparation for potential measles outbreaks. There has been a steady rise in measles cases this year, therefore this letter asks NHS systems to focus on how to reduce the spread and disseminate information on increasing the MMR uptake in all regions to support achievement of the national standard.

## Monthly ImmForm update for flu SROs / GPs

This is a reminder about the first flu monthly data upload for the 2023/24 season.

Unfortunately there has been an issue with the largest GP IT supplier and they have been unable to provide UKHSA with data via the automated extract that was due to end yesterday. This has meant that there has had to be a delay in the opening of the manual submission as any automatic data provided by the IT supplier would have overwritten the manual submission.

With this, we are aware that a large number of South West practices will not have had an automatic upload for this monthly submission - **practices are reminded to check that the automatic upload was completed.**

In case of an unsuccessful automatic upload, **practices will need to undertake manual upload of the data.**

We have been informed that the manual submission is due to be opened either later today or, at the latest, Monday mid-afternoon. Please note that the submission deadline has not changed, the deadline is **midnight Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**

**Please note you should check both the main and child collections as you may be required to upload manually for one or both collections.**

This is part of the service specification and is mandatory for all practices who have signed up to deliver flu vaccinations this season. You will need to be registered with ImmForm to submit data.

Please see attached guidance on the ImmForm registration and how to manually upload monthly flu data.

For your information the collection schedule is as follows:

ALL GP PRACTICES MONTHLY SURVEYS							
Survey Month	Data up to Date	Survey Start Date	GP System Supplier Submit End Date	Manual Survey Open date	Manual Survey End Date	Pre-release Date 9.30am	Publication date
OCTOBER	Tue 31/10/2023	Wed 01/11/2023	Thu 09/11/2023	Fri 10/11/2023	Thu 16/11/2023	Wed 22/11/2023	Thu 23/11/2023
NOVEMBER	Thu 30/11/2023	Fri 01/12/2023	Mon 11/12/2023	Tue 12/12/2023	Mon 18/12/2023	Wed 20/12/2023	Thu 21/12/2023
DECEMBER	Sun 31/12/2023	Mon 01/01/2024	Wed 10/01/2024	Thu 11/01/2024	Wed 17/01/2024	Wed 24/01/2024	Thu 25/01/2024
JANUARY	Wed 31/01/2024	Thu 01/02/2024	Fri 09/02/2024	Sat 10/02/2024	Fri 16/02/2024	Wed 21/02/2024	Thu 22/02/2024
FEBRUARY	Thu 29/02/2024	Fri 01/03/2024	Mon 11/03/2024	Tue 12/03/2024	Mon 18/03/2024	Wed 20/03/2024	Thu 21/03/2024

Please get in touch if you have any questions. For any questions which relate to your Immform registration or technical issues etc. please contact the Immform Helpdesk - [0207 183 8580](tel:02071838580) or email [Helpdesk@immform.org.uk](mailto:Helpdesk@immform.org.uk)

## **NEW: National COVID-19 Vaccination Cross-Programme Bulletin**

Please find attached and on FutureNHS: [Covid-19 Vaccination Bulletins - COVID-19 Vaccination Programme - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#).

## **NEW: Rising 5's COVID-19 Vaccination**

Please see below wording agreed by the UKHSA regarding the vaccination of children who have turned 5 years old, but started the course under 5 and had a 3-microgram dose of vaccine:






*Eligible children aged 6 months to 4 years who have commenced primary immunisation with Pfizer BioNTech Comirnaty 3 micrograms/dose vaccine but have their 5th birthday before their second primary dose is due (after a minimum interval of 3 months) should ideally complete vaccination with the Comirnaty 3 micrograms/dose vaccine (this is a licensed indication), but a dose of a Comirnaty 10 micrograms/dose vaccine is a suitable alternative (and is licensed from age 5 years irrespective of prior COVID-19 vaccination history). Vaccination should not be unnecessarily delayed in order to provide a Comirnaty 3 micrograms/ dose vaccine.*

## **UPDATED: 'Which COVID-19 Vaccine?' Poster**

The UKHSA 'Which COVID-19 Vaccine?' poster has been updated for the Autumn / Winter programme and was published on 3rd November. The poster can be accessed at [Which COVID-19 vaccine? \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#).

Please make sure that the updated poster is displayed in your vaccination areas and that any previous editions or alternative vaccine posters (such as the Vaccine Quick Reference Guide produced by the NHSE SW team) are removed.

# Which COVID-19 vaccine?

Comirnaty 30 Omicron XBB.1.5 30 micrograms/dose	Comirnaty 10 Omicron XBB.1.5 10 micrograms/dose	Comirnaty 3 Omicron XBB.1.5 3 micrograms/dose Concentrate	Spikevax Omicron XBB.1.5 50 micrograms/dose	VidPrevtyn Beta 5 micrograms/dose (recombinant, adjuvanted)
				
<b>Dose</b> 0.3ml (30 micrograms) by intramuscular injection	<b>Dose</b> 0.3ml (10 micrograms) by intramuscular injection	<b>Dose</b> 0.2ml (3 micrograms) by intramuscular injection	<b>Dose</b> 0.5ml (50 micrograms) by intramuscular injection	<b>Dose</b> 0.5ml (5 micrograms) by intramuscular injection
<b>Age</b> From 12 years	<b>Age</b> 5 to 11 years	<b>Age</b> From 6 months to 4 years	<b>Age</b> From 18 years	<b>Age</b> Currently recommended by JCVI for adults aged 75 years and above and for some individuals from age 18 – see Green Book for details
<b>Number of doses per vial</b> 6	<b>Number of doses per vial</b> 6	<b>Number of doses per vial</b> 10	<b>Number of doses per vial</b> 5	<b>Number of doses per vial of mixed vaccine</b> 10
<b>Dilution required?</b> No: ready to use once thawed	<b>Dilution required?</b> No: ready to use once thawed	<b>Dilution required?</b> Yes with 2.2ml sodium chloride 0.9% solution for injection	<b>Dilution required?</b> No: ready to use once thawed	<b>Preparation required?</b> There are 2 x 2.5ml vials (antigen vial and adjuvant vial) which must be combined in the antigen vial before use. After mixing the vaccine vial contains 10 doses of 0.5ml
<b>Refrigerated storage</b> Thawed and unopened: up to 10 weeks at +2°C to +8°C	<b>Refrigerated storage</b> Thawed and unopened: up to 10 weeks at +2°C to +8°C	<b>Refrigerated storage</b> Thawed, unopened and undiluted: up to 10 weeks at +2°C to +8°C	<b>Refrigerated storage</b> Thawed and unopened: up to 30 days at +2°C to +8°C	<b>Refrigerated storage</b> Unopened vials should be stored in a refrigerator (+2°C to +8°C) for up to 1 year; do not freeze. Keep the vials in the outer carton in order to protect from light
<b>Room temperature stability</b> Unopened vials may be stored for up to 12 hours at temperatures up to +30°C	<b>Room temperature stability</b> Unopened vials may be stored for up to 12 hours at temperatures up to +30°C	<b>Room temperature stability</b> Unopened vials may be stored for up to 12 hours at temperatures up to +30°C	<b>Room temperature stability</b> Unopened vials may be stored at +8°C to +25°C up to 24 hours	<b>Room temperature stability</b> Mixed vial stable at +23°C to +27°C for 2 to 3 hours
<b>Stability after first puncture*</b> May be stored between +2°C and +30°C; use within 12 hours	<b>Stability after first puncture*</b> May be stored between +2°C and +30°C; use within 12 hours	<b>Stability after first puncture*</b> May be stored between +2°C and +30°C; use within 12 hours	<b>Stability after first puncture*</b> May be stored between +2°C and +25°C; use within 6 hours	<b>Stability after mixing*</b> Should ideally be stored in a refrigerator or cool box at +2°C to +8°C. Mixed product can be kept at room temperature whilst in use at a clinic session. Use all 10 doses as soon as practically possible and discard any remaining unused doses after 6 hours
<b>Appearance</b> <b>Prior to mixing:</b> the thawed dispersion may contain white to off-white opaque amorphous particles <b>After mixing:</b> a white to off-white dispersion with no particulates visible	<b>Appearance</b> <b>Prior to mixing:</b> the thawed dispersion may contain white to off-white opaque amorphous particles <b>After mixing:</b> clear to slightly opalescent dispersion with no particulates visible	<b>Appearance</b> <b>Prior to dilution:</b> the thawed dispersion may contain white to off-white opaque amorphous particles <b>Diluted vaccine:</b> white to off-white dispersion, no particulates visible	<b>Appearance</b> White to off-white dispersion	<b>Appearance</b> The antigen solution is a colourless, clear liquid. The adjuvant emulsion is a whitish to yellowish homogeneous milky liquid. The mixed vaccine is a whitish to yellowish homogeneous milky liquid emulsion

All products contain Polyethylene Glycol (PEG) apart from Sanofi VidPrevtyn Beta which contains Polysorbate 80 and Polysorbate 20. \*Punctured vials should be used as soon as possible to minimise the risk of microbial contamination. All vaccines should be used in accordance with Green Book and NHS England operational guidance.

**Resources:** Green Book Chapter 14a: [gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-the-green-book-chapter-14a](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-the-green-book-chapter-14a) • **GOV.UK COVID-19 vaccination programme:** [gov.uk/government/collections/covid-19-vaccination-programme](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/covid-19-vaccination-programme)

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## 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](mailto: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 Bulletin will not be circulated.**