

# South West Vaccination & Screening Bulletin

  
South West Collaborative  
Commissioning Hub



*Issue 165: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023*

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### **SCREENING:**

## **Preparing for the new NHS Cervical Screening Management System (CSMS)**

CSMS is the new [NHS Cervical Screening Management System](#) that will be replacing NHAIS for cervical screening call/recall by the end of 23/24.

To access the new system, all staff working in the cervical screening service will need to ensure that they have a NHS Smartcard in place and that the correct [Role Based Access Control \(RBAC\)](#) permissions and [cervical screening workgroup](#) have been added before go live.

**Specific guidance for GPs and general practice staff:**

If you are involved in the call and recall process, previously known as the Prior Notification List or PNL, [the new system will change the way this list is received by the GP surgery](#) and will also change how you will need to action it to ensure participants are called efficiently and safely.

New RBAC workgroup codes for the primary care sector have been introduced which enable registration authorities to complete the set-up of smartcards for GP practices. Please ask your registration authority to [view the new workgroup codes](#) to complete smartcard set up.

*For sample takers, trainers and mentors who are working across multiple GP practices, for example Primary Care Networks, GP Federations, GP Alliances and Extended Access Hubs, the Information Governance framework allows users to log into the NHS Cervical Screening Management System using any one of the relevant ODS codes and to access the patient details for any patient associated within the group of GP practices, assuming that they have a legitimate relationship with that patient.*

*Users do not need to have an ODS code on their Smartcard for every GP practice within the group.*

### **Outstanding User Readiness Actions:**

Several practices and organisations do not appear to have completed the required user readiness actions. Please be reminded that this workgroup/role allocation needs to be completed as soon as possible. If your practice are having any smartcard issues, please contact:

- Devon Region: [d-icb.smartcards@nhs.net](mailto:d-icb.smartcards@nhs.net) or call 01752 581913, 01752 580309 or 01752 581903
- Dorset Region: [smartcard.support@nhsdorset.nhs.uk](mailto:smartcard.support@nhsdorset.nhs.uk) (contact Lee Dominy)
- Other Regions: [scwcsu.smartcards@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.smartcards@nhs.net)

Please note: the workgroup. It must be called **cervicalscreening** – all on word, all lowercase. This is highlighted in [Guidance for registration authorities - NHS Digital](#). If you have any questions about this, please contact us at [england.swvast@nhs.net](mailto:england.swvast@nhs.net).

## **VACCINATIONS:**

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ACTION: Fluenz® Tetra**

#### **Updated expiry dates for specific batches of Fluenz® Tetra and product recall.**

Following routine stability testing, it has become necessary for AstraZeneca to reduce the shelf life of 6 batches of Fluenz® Tetra issued between 30<sup>th</sup> August and 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 by 5 days.

The expiry dates for these batches have subsequently been updated as follows:

<b>Batch Number</b>	<b>Printed Expiry Date</b>	<b>Amended Expiry Date</b>
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TH2127	28-Dec-2023	23-Dec-2023
TH2127B	28-Dec-2023	23-Dec-2023
TH3110	01-Jan-2024	28-Dec-2023
TH3110B	02-Jan-2024	29-Dec-2023
TJ2290B	10-Jan-2024	05-Jan-2024
TJ2290	11-Jan-2024	06-Jan-2024

Except for the amended expiry date, there are no other changes made to the product information.

AstraZeneca assure full effectiveness until the amended expiry date, and the quality, safety and efficacy of Fluenz® Tetra is not affected. Parents/care givers do not need to be concerned about their child's vaccination.

In agreement with the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), AZ will also undertake a medicines' recall exercise for these batches as a precautionary measure.

If you have received any vaccine from these batches, please ensure where possible, that they are fully administered by the **amended** expiry dates listed above. Any remaining stock should thereafter be quarantined and returned to AstraZeneca. If you need to arrange a stock return, please contact Movianto customer care on 01234 587 207 or [Moviantouk.NHSCC@movianto.com](mailto:Moviantouk.NHSCC@movianto.com)

Official notification from MHRA and AstraZeneca can be found here:

[Class 3 Medicines Recall: AstraZeneca UK Ltd., Fluenz Tetra nasal spray suspension, EL\(23\)A/39 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)  
[MDR 298 0923 Fluenz Tetra \(astrazeneca.co.uk\)](#)

All customers who have received a delivery containing one or more of these batches should also be contacted directly by both post and email, advising them of this issue.

#### **AstraZeneca Contact Point.**

For further information on this matter or medical information enquiries, contact AstraZeneca Medical Information [medical.informationUK@astrazeneca.com](mailto:medical.informationUK@astrazeneca.com) or call 0800 783 0033.

## **New ICARS incident reporting form and website**

Following feedback received through our Immunisation Clinical Advice Response Service (ICARS) survey and e-mails, we have updated the reporting form that we ask settings to complete following a COVID/section 7A immunisation incident (including cold chain incidents).

A copy of this new reporting form can be found on our ICARS website: [NHS England – South West » Immunisation Clinical Advice & Response Service \(ICARS\)](#). The following information can also be found on the webpage:

- Working hours and response times for the ICARS service

- What is and isn't covered by the ICARS service
- Learning from previous incidents and queries
- Immunisation guidance
- Supportive tools

Please continue sending all your COVID/Section 7A immunisation queries and incidents to [england.swicars@nhs.net](mailto:england.swicars@nhs.net). We kindly ask that any e-mails sent do not contain any patient identifiable details, as we do not require this information. We only need a patient's date of birth for immunisation scheduling queries.

## Winter vaccination appointment reminder

As announced [last week](#), from 15<sup>th</sup> December, the national booking service, NHS App and 119 phone service will be closed for winter vaccine bookings. Practices are asked to continue to encourage those eligible to come forwards by 14<sup>th</sup> December whilst it is most convenient to book and ensure they are protected in time for the winter holidays. We have included materials to support this in our [national communications toolkit](#).

After 14<sup>th</sup> December, COVID-19 may continue through local outreach until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 and flu vaccinations until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, for those eligible cohorts. Please make sure that you have local outreach and engagement plans in place for after 14<sup>th</sup> December to encourage those that have not yet done so to come forward for their vaccines – this could include signposting to local booking systems, walk in sites or opportunistic vaccinations.

Please be aware that this reminder might come to you from via multiple roots and we apologise for any cross-posting.

## 2023/24 Autumn/Winter Seasonal Flu Immunisation Programme

As you are aware the [National flu immunisation programme letter](#) states that flu vaccinations should be given in sufficient time to ensure patients are protected before flu starts circulating but can continue to be given until **March 2024**.

**Upon review of the latest Weekly ImmForm data, SW Flu uptake particularly for our priority cohorts listed below has plateaued and is showing as less than the SW uptake position for week 47 in 2022/23. Therefore, we wanted to ensure that practices are still actively offering Flu vaccinations either via booked clinics or opportunistically.**

If an eligible patient presents late for vaccination, it is generally appropriate to still offer it. This is particularly important if it is a late flu season or when patients newly at-risk present, such as pregnant women who may not have been pregnant at the beginning of the vaccination period. Late vaccines can also provide some protection into the following season. The decision to vaccinate should consider the fact that the immune response to vaccination takes about 2 weeks to fully develop.

To support the ongoing delivery of the programme please can you consider the questions below -

1. Are you still offering Flu Vaccinations either via booked clinics or opportunistically?
2. Do you hold enough available stock to meet demand for both the Adult & Child immunisation programmes?
3. Are you aware of how you can access/order more stock?
4. Have you undertaken a proactive call/recall of patients using different forms of communication?
5. Is Flu vaccination well-advertised and information freely available for patients wanting further information about the immunisation programme?
6. Have you taken part or delivered any innovative approaches to increase access or uptake of Flu vaccine this year?

Thank you for your continued efforts to deliver the programme and if you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact our team.

## COVID-19:

### **Primary COVID-19 vaccinations for 6 month to 4 year olds in a clinical risk group after AW 23/24**

After the close of the Autumn/Winter 2023/24 COVID-19 vaccination campaign, the offer of primary doses for those aged 6 months to 4 years in a clinical risk group will be paused. Sites are advised to not plan COVID-19 vaccination appointments for this cohort beyond 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024, including for those that have not completed their primary vaccination. Further information will be provided ahead of the next seasonal campaign(s) to clarify if and when this offer can be resumed.

During the inter-seasonal period, those in this age cohort who are severely immunosuppressed (SIS) may receive catch up or additional doses based on clinical judgement, utilising a Patient Specific Direction, as per eligible SIS individuals of other age cohorts. Please see the [Green Book, Chapter 14a](#) for further detailed information.

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

The COVID-19 Vaccination Cross-Programme Bulletin from NHS England provides need-to-know information from the national COVID-19 vaccination deployment team, supporting Vaccination Centres (VC), Local Vaccination Services (LVS) and Hospital Hubs across the country to deliver the COVID-19 vaccination programme. Please find the latest issue and back issues on FutureNHS: [Covid-19 Vaccination Bulletins - COVID-19 Vaccination Programme - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform](#).

## 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.**