

Gateway Reference 02640

Area Team Directors
Regional Heads of Primary
Care
Area Team Heads of Primary
Care

Commissioning Operations
NHS England
Quarry House
Quarry Hill
Leeds
LS2 &UE

cc. Regional Directors

8 December 2014

Dear colleagues,

OUTCOME OF 2015/16 GMS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS FOR VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION PROGRAMMES

This letter is to inform you of the outcome of the contract negotiations between the BMA's General Practitioners Committee (GPC) and NHS Employers (on behalf of NHS England) on amendments that will apply to the Vaccination and Immunisation contractual arrangements in England from April 2015.

An agreement has been reached with the GPC and we and NHS Employers will issue more detailed guidance on all of the changes in due course. Changes to Regulations and Directions and amendments to the Statement of Financial Entitlements (SFE) will come into force from April 2015.

New Programmes

It has been agreed to implement two new services that allow GPs to vaccinate children who have missed the schools delivery programme on an opportunistic basis.

- HPV for Adolescent Girls
- Adolescent Meningitis C

These programmes will only be a support service for children who have missed the vaccination offered through the schools programme and present at GP practices requesting a vaccination. These programmes will be delivered on an opportunistic basis only and allow practices to claim an administration fee of £7.64 per vaccination.

Minor Changes to Existing Programmes

Seasonal Flu and Adult Pneumococcal Programmes

It has been agreed to roll this combined programme forward with minor changes to the timeframes for this programme.

- The seasonal flu programme will now begin on 1 September and run until 31 March. This change will bring the flu programme in line with the Public Health England flu season and vaccine plans.
- The timeframe for Pneumococcal vaccinations will be amended to become an annual programme, to allow practices to vaccinate patients all year round.

There is no change to the clinical requirements for this programme.

Childhood Seasonal flu

It has been agreed to roll this programme forward with a change to eligibility date from 1 September to 31 August. This change will bring the age qualification in line with the school admissions programme and will ensure children not currently qualifying for the enhanced service or schools programme are not missed from being vaccinated.

Shingles Routine and Catch-up Programmes

It has been agreed to roll both of these programmes forward with changes to the eligible cohort outlined below:

- Shingles Routine aged 70 – patients aged 70 on 1 September 2013 until their 80th Birthday.

The focus of the routine cohort would remain on those patients aged 70 on 1 September 2015. Those patients aged 70 on 1 September 2013 who have not yet been vaccinated will remain eligible for vaccination on an opportunistic basis,.

- Shingles Catch-up – the programme for 2015/16 will focus on a single cohort of patient those aged 78 on first of September 2015

Those patients aged 79 who have not yet been vaccinated will remain eligible to be vaccinated until their 80th Birthday.

Meningitis C University Freshers

It has been agreed to roll this programme forward with a minor change to the timeframe for this programme.


- The timeframe for the enhanced service will be amended to allow vaccinations to be delivered up to 31 March.

Adjustment to Meningitis C Payment

The payment for MenC would be changing with a minor reduction in the value of target payments to reflect the change from providing two doses to one dose of MenC. This amendment will come into effect from 2015.

Please ensure that this letter is distributed to all relevant people within your teams.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosamond Roughton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'R' at the end.

Rosamond Roughton
Director of NHS Commissioning