**Flu Issue 4**

**South East Region**

**Updates for week ending 23 September 2022**

**ALERT – PGD Inactivated Flu v11**

Please note that version 11 of the inactivated flu PGD **does not** allow for the administration of inactivated flu for those aged 50-65 in at risk groups.

A corrected, authorised PGD will be circulated on Tuesday 27 September, until then a PSD will be required when administering inactivated flu to those aged 50-64 and in an at-risk group.

Please consider use of the National Protocol (if applicable) in the interim.

National protocol for inactivated influenza vaccine - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

**Healthy 50-64 Year Olds from 15th October**

All contractors (both GP practices and community pharmacies) are reminded that healthy 50-64 year olds who are not in a designated clinical risk group only become eligible under the Enhanced or Advance Service from 15th October 2022. The reason for this is to ensure that vaccine is prioritised for those who are most susceptible to, and at risk from, influenza. Contractors should be aware that any vaccination done before 15th October will not attract an item of service fee unless there is a specific clinical justification for vaccination before this date.

**Use of QIVe**

QIVe is not indicated for use in those aged 65 and over under any circumstance.

Where QIVe is administered in error to those aged 65 and over, the patient should be informed of the error and the potential implications, in accordance with duty of candour. Individuals aged 65 years and over (particularly those more than 75 years of age) may not respond as well to QIVe as they would to the vaccines recommended for their age group (aQIV, QIVr or QIVc). If the patient wishes to receive the vaccine that they should have been given, this can be offered following a discussion of the benefits and risks.

The error should also be reported to the relevant Screening and Immunisation Team in accordance with normal incident reporting procedures.

It is a condition of the enhanced/advanced service specifications that the recommended vaccines are used. Where this is not the case, an item of service fee is not payable.

[The national influenza immunisation programme 2022 to 2023: Information for healthcare practitioners (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1105068/Flu-information-for-HCPs-2022-to-2023-20Sept22.pdf)

**Frontline Healthcare Workers**

GP practices and pharmacies are reminded that the flu enhanced service does not include vaccination of the majority of frontline health and social care workers. That is because it is the responsibility of employers to provide flu vaccination for their staff in accordance with long-standing occupational health provision. The only frontline health and social care workers for whom practices can claim an enhanced service fee are those employed by the following types of social care providers without employer-led occupational health schemes.

* A registered residential care or nursing home.
* Registered domiciliary care provider.
* A voluntary managed hospice provider.
* Direct Payment (personal budgets) or Personal Health Budgets, such as Personal Assistants.

Practices may also vaccinate locum GPs.

As set out in Flu Issue 1, GP practices can vaccinate frontline staff employed by registered residential care or nursing homes or voluntary managed hospice providers and locum GPs even if they are not registered with the practice. See ES paragraph 8.4.

If you have any feedback or queries relating to this communication, please contact:

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