**Flu Issue 12**

**South East Region**

**Updates for week ending 25 November**

**Vaccine supply for 2 & 3 year olds**

We know that some practices have been told by ImmForm that they cannot order any more Fluenz nasal vaccine for this age group because they have reached their allocation ‘cap’.

We have been assured by NHS England national team and ImmForm that practices can get more Fluenz once they have reached their allocation. If you find yourself in that position, please email [Helpdesk@immform.org.uk](mailto:Helpdesk@immform.org.uk) with the information below:

* *GP code:*
* *Account number:*
* *Reason for additional vaccine request:*
* *Number of packs/doses needed:*
* *Date this vaccine will be used:*

You can do this more than once but please only ask for what you really need and as you need it: there is less Fluenz stock than in the last couple of years so keeping wastage to a minimum is important.

If an order has been declined, please ask again

You will have seen from last week’s flu issue that another national call and recall is happening for 2 and 3 year olds, amongst whom uptake remains much lower than we would like. Please keep offering appointments for this cohort.

**PCN Impact and Investment Fund (IIF) reminder**

A PCN will earn points under the IIF if the following indicators are met:

* VI-01 Percentage of patients aged 65 or over who have received flu vaccination. Max 40 points, upwards 80-86% GPES
* VI-02 Percentage of patients aged 18-64 in clinical risk group who have received flu vaccination. Max 88 points, upwards 57-90% GPES
* VI-03 Percentage of 2 and 3 year olds who have had flu vaccination. Max 14 points, upwards 45-82% GPES.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/B1963_i_Network-Contract-DES-Specification_171022.pdf>

The flu vaccine can be provided **in any patient setting** (e.g., general practice, community pharmacy, trust), provided it is coded in GP IT systems. Please check that any vaccines delivered outside of the practice are coded before entering the GP record.

**Coding Vaccines given outside of the practice**

Most vaccines will flow automatically coded into the practice record and do not need coding, or re-coding as being given outside of the practice. That includes records that flow in from NIMS e.g., vaccines given to school children. We are advised that NIMS automatically applies an organisational (ODS) code which will ensure that those vaccinations are excluded from your GPES extraction. Therefore, you do not need to recode these as ‘given outside of the practice’.

However, we are hearing some reports that vaccines given in a PCN setting using the combined PCN and flu entry template may be arriving as a document entitled ‘Administration of Vaccine’. These vaccines may not be coded, so please do check as it will affect reported uptake and your IIF achievements. We are continuing to investigate these reports but, in the meantime, please check these records as they come in. If you do have to apply a manual code, please make sure you code that they were given outside of the practice.

**Patient information**

As a wide variety of influenza vaccines are available each year, it is especially important that the exact brand of vaccine, batch number and site at which each vaccine is given is accurately recorded in the individual’s records.

Please ensure that when obtaining consent, you provide patients with information about which vaccine they are being offered and that patient information leaflets (PILs) are available.

**Flu vaccination uptake in Health Care Workers**

The regional uptake amongst healthcare workers in Trusts (on ESR) for the flu vaccination is 39.2% *(Data source: 2022-2023 Flu Trust Uptake as of 14 November 2022).* We are keen to improve uptake amongst HCWs. We are asking trusts with the lowest uptake to work with their system workforce leads to work together to address this. If trusts are encountering any issues that the NHS England national team can help with, please feed these in to [england.vaccinecentresgroupsupport@nhs.net](mailto:england.vaccinecentresgroupsupport@nhs.net)

Primary care providers are reminded that you can vaccinate frontline staff employed through/as any of the following:

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

In addition, you can vaccinate your own staff under the enhanced/advanced services. Whilst you will not receive an item of service fee, you are indemnified to do so.

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

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