

NHS England – HIOW Screening and Immunisation Team
5-minute update – Issue 41 – November 2022

Contact: england.hiow-SIT@nhs.net

Please note that from 1 June 2022, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Public Health Screening and Immunisation Team generic email address changed to **england.hiow-SIT@nhs.net**. This email address should be used for queries regarding the screening and immunisation programmes.

Immunisation Programme Updates

National Call and Recall for Children Missing MMR Doses

NHS England will be sending communications to parents/guardians of children aged 1 to under 6 years whose record shows they are missing one or both MMR doses, advising them to contact their child's general practice to book vaccination. This forms part of the GP contract requirement for practices to participate in a national vaccination campaign each year. Practices should check the child's vaccine status and vaccinate as appropriate. Contact with parents/guardians resulting from this MMR call/recall is also an opportunity to check the status of the child for any other vaccines they require and, if they are eligible, to also offer flu vaccination.

If you are experiencing calls from parents of children that have been previously vaccinated please contact Scwcsu.vaccineprogramme@nhs.net with the child's details. Where this occurs could you also please ensure CHIS have the correct information on their records. The Child Health Records Department can be reached at childhealthrecords@southernhealth.nhs.uk.

Opportunistic MenACWY and HPV Vaccination in General Practice

As higher education students start a new academic year, young people may be advised by their institution to check they are up to date with these vaccinations and wish to be vaccinated. Administration of MenACWY and HPV vaccines are essential services and should be offered on an opportunistic basis, or if requested, to those eligible aged up to 25 years who have missed vaccination under the routine school-aged immunisation programme. **The cessation of the MenACWY Freshers Programme in 2020/21 does not remove this requirement, as this was a distinct catch-up programme.**

Vaccination Records

Practices are asked to ensure that vaccination records are added to the patient record when vaccines are administered and when new patients join the surgery.

The vaccination codes and administration dates need to be recorded accurately.

Increase in Cases of Diphtheria amongst Asylum Seekers and Refugees

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) have confirmed that since February 2022, there have been five confirmed cases of diphtheria identified in asylum seekers in the UK with early reports that this situation is mirrored across several European countries. Many cases have presented with cutaneous lesions.

Clinicians are reminded that the two key diphtheria causing strains, *C. diphtheriae* and *C. ulcerans*, may present with cutaneous and/or respiratory presentations and can lead to severe disease in those who are not immunised or fully vaccinated. Healthcare staff involved with supporting new arrivals should consider investigating for suspected diphtheria in individuals presenting with cutaneous lesions and ensure careful use of PPE when assessing patients. It is important that all staff are fully immunised. Vaccination status should be assessed and any new arrivals with incomplete schedules should be caught-up as per the UK schedule. More information can be found in national guidance here:

[Diphtheria: public health control and management in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/diphtheria-public-health-control-and-management-in-england)

Use of Vaccines Following Cold Chain Incidents

Following manufacturer advice to confirm that vaccines are still stable and effective following a cold chain incident, practices are not obliged to inform patients that the affected vaccines are being used off-license and these can still be used under a PGD.

Further information can be found in the updated Vaccine Incident Guidance at the links below:

Duty of Candour:

[Vaccine incident guidance: Responding to errors in vaccine storage, handling and administration \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114111/vaccine-incident-guidance-responding-to-errors-in-vaccine-storage-handling-and-administration-2022.pdf) (page 37)

Use of PGDs:

[Vaccine incident guidance: Responding to errors in vaccine storage, handling and administration \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114111/vaccine-incident-guidance-responding-to-errors-in-vaccine-storage-handling-and-administration-2022.pdf) (page 21)

Vaccine Error and Cold Chain Incident Reporting

Practices are asked to ensure that all vaccine error and cold chain incidents are reported to the screening and immunisation team at england.hiow-sit@nhs.net.

These will also need to be raised as an adverse event using your local reporting system.

This is to ensure that incidents are managed effectively, appropriate advice regarding patient management is received and to reduce the risk of further similar incidents.

Immunisation Resources

Updated Resources

Vaccine Incident Guidance: [Vaccine incident guidance: responding to vaccine errors - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114442/vaccine-incident-guidance-responding-to-vaccine-errors-2019.pdf)
(www.gov.uk)

Vaccine Update

The latest vaccine updates are below:

Issue 331: [Vaccine update: issue 331, August 2022 - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114442/vaccine-update-issue-331-august-2022.pdf) (www.gov.uk)

Issue 332 Flu Special Edition: [Vaccine update: issue 332, October 2022, flu special edition - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114442/vaccine-update-issue-332-october-2022-flu-special-edition.pdf)
(www.gov.uk)

Updated PGDs

Please note the link to the PGD website has changed to [NHS England — South East » Patient Group Directions \(PGDs\)](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-professionals/patient-group-directions).
PGD downloads are available here: [NHS England — South East » South East Patient Group Direction downloads](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-professionals/patient-group-directions)

PPV: [UKHSAPPV23PGDV4.00_vl-002.pdf](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-professionals/patient-group-directions/patient-group-directions-for-parental-physician-administered-pneumococcal-polysaccharide-vaccine-2019-2020.pdf) (england.nhs.uk)

Influenza – Intramuscular: [Inactivated Influenza PGD](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-professionals/patient-group-directions/influenza-pgd-2019-2020.pdf) (england.nhs.uk)

Influenza – Intranasal: [LAIV PGD](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-professionals/patient-group-directions/laiiv-pgd-2019-2020.pdf)
(england.nhs.uk)

Flu Weekly Bulletin

All updates and resources which are available for the flu vaccination programme are now being sent out via the Flu Weekly Bulletin. Please keep an eye out for this in your inbox every Friday sent from htvphcontracting@nhs.net.

Flu Vaccine and Learning Disability Video

The Southern Health Learning Disability team have developed a new nasal vaccine video co-produced with Southampton's Busy People and Learning Disability Strategic Health Facilitators.

The video was developed because adults with learning disabilities who are needle phobic can have the flu nasal vaccine and the team wanted to show people what the experience is like and to offer reassurance.

The video can be accessed here: [Health information :: Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust](https://www.nhs.uk/health-information/southern-health-nhs-foundation-trust). Select the Flu Vaccination section and it is the first video in the list.

Subscribe to keep up to date with national immunisation news:

Vaccine Update: [Vaccine update - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114442/vaccine-update-issue-331-august-2022.pdf) (www.gov.uk)

Screening Programme Updates

CERVICAL

Guide for Sample Takers and GP Admin Staff on How to Check Screening Eligibility and Next Test Due Dates on Open Exeter

The sample taker is responsible for making sure a person is eligible for cervical screening and due a test and should not routinely contact the laboratory or colposcopy for this information.

Please see the attached guide for sample takers and GP admin staff on how to check screening eligibility and next test due dates on Open Exeter.

Cervical Sample Taker Training Requirements

All training in cervical screening whether at foundation/introductory level or the three yearly update must be with an accredited provider. If you are in any doubt about accreditation status of the course you want to clarify this with the provider or contact the Screening and Immunisation Team.

Please note that the e-lfh online UPDATE course is an accredited update course for those that have completed and passed both their theory and practical elements following the introductory/foundation course only. It can be accessed at <https://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/>

All staff new to sample taking must undertake an accredited two-day foundation/introductory course before they can be issued with a trainee sample taker code and start taking supervised samples.

Trainee sample takers should take 20 acceptable cervical samples without direct supervision and no more than 25 up to the point of final assessment.

The full training guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cervical-screening-cervical-sample-taker-training>

Cervical Screening for People with Learning Difficulties

Please watch out for adverts for a training session for all sample takers specifically focused on people with learning difficulties. These will be occurring on:

- Thursday 24 November 12-2pm
- Tuesday 10 December 10-12pm

We would like as many of you to attend as possible.

The sign-up form can be found here:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=sfTDN7CF9Ueylge0jXdO4xYpILoYmtJwvew-5Qc2yRUNIJIOfpJVjg5MFpRU0xIVDhDSEFTNFIZQy4u>

Contacting Us

As the screening and immunisation team are all currently working from home, we are not able to access post or the office landline telephone number.

If any documents need to be shared can they be scanned and sent to england.hiow-sit@nhs.net. Please DO NOT include Patient Identifiable Information.

Email remains the quickest and most effective way to reach the team england.hiow-sit@nhs.net.