



Public Health GP Bulletin

Issue 65: 25th November 2021

Section 7a: Screening & Immunisations

About this bulletin:

This weekly bulletin is the NHSE/I South West Integrated Public Health Team's main method of communicating with Practice Managers in BNSSG, BSW, Cornwall & IOS, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Somerset.

The bulletin contains important Public Health information relating to Section 7a Screening and Immunisation programmes commissioned by NHSE/I. Content may include requests for information and deadlines affecting payments, as well as updates on issues relating to GP contracts.

Current issues and back copies of the bulletins and attachments are available on the NHSE/I website [here](#). If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Integrated Public Health Team at england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net

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ICARS COVID-19 Newsletter

We are pleased to bring you the latest updates from our ICARS service. This newsletter is attached to your email.

Use of AZ for housebound patients

For housebound, as for other patients, Pfizer or half dose Moderna remain the preferred vaccines for the booster dose as there is some evidence that this potentially provides a better boost. However, AZ can be considered in exceptional circumstances for this group of patients where the logistics are very difficult e.g. where the persons needing these services are dispersed and / or in very rural areas making it difficult to facilitate use of the vaccine for them in an acceptable time-frame. AZ should only be used as a booster where the individual has already received at least one dose of AZ previously, or for those who have not previously received AZ where this is being recommended following referral to an immunologist / allergist. The advice around storage, transport and use of Pfizer has changed significantly from previous phases of the programme and is not as difficult to transport and administer particularly in urban settings where there may be a number of individuals in relatively close proximity. Additional funds have been provided to mitigate the 15 min wait required post administration of an mRNA vaccine up until the beginning of December.

Child / Young person Flu Vaccination Eligibility: Key Messages for all Staff

Please see attached document.

Child Health Information Systems (CHIS) – for information

Please see the attached letter regarding the awarding of the BGSW CHIS contract.

CQRS Notification- 2021/22 NHSEI Public Health Commissioned Services

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This is a notification regarding Public Health Section 7a services that NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) commission from you via Calculating Quality Reporting Service (CQRS)

EMIS - Seasonal Flu Data Issues

NHS Digital has been notified of an issue with the pharmacy reference sets, impacting extracts for the Seasonal Flu service. This has resulted in some incorrect submissions for October 2021 claims for EMIS practices only. The impact is specifically related to eligible asthmatic patients who have received a flu vaccination for no other reason.

In response, NHS Digital is working with EMIS to investigate this issue and re-extract data to correct claims that have not yet been approved. Timings are being confirmed for this re-extract and further updates will be provided on the actions being taken to resolve this issue.

Impact

- Practices impacted by this issue may receive an underpayment relating to activity in October 2021
- Declarations in CQRS that have already been approved and submitted to PCSE will have been processed for payment for October 2021 activity. Work has started to confirm the process to address any approved underpayments
- There may be a delay to the submission of November 2021 achievement data for this service whilst the issue is addressed

Action required

EMIS Practices

- No further declarations for the Seasonal Flu Service should be completed for October 2021 claims only **until further notice**
- Declarations may continue for September 2021 Flu claims
- Declarations may continue for all other services
- If there are concerns about cash flow as a result of this issue practices should contact:

BaNES, Gloucestershire, Swindon, Wiltshire and Dorset practices please contact the Integrated Public Health Commissioning Team phcontractssouthwest@nhs.net

BNSSG, Somerset, Devon and Kernow practices please contact the South West Primary Care Team england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net

TPP & Cegedim/Vision Practices

- Declarations may continue for the Seasonal Flu service as per usual. The incorrect pharmacy reference set was not implemented for these systems and therefore the October 2021 payments are not impacted.

- Declarations may continue for all other services

Next Update

A further update from the CQRS team is expected on or before Wednesday 1st December 2021.

If you have any queries relating to this issue, please do not hesitate to contact to us at the contact details below.

BaNES, Gloucestershire, Swindon, Wiltshire and Dorset practices please contact the Integrated Public Health Commissioning Team phcontractssouthwest@nhs.net

BNSSG, Somerset, Devon and Kernow practices please contact the South West Primary Care Team england.primarycaremedical@nhs.net

Thank you

Integrated Public Health Commissioning Team

NHS England and NHS Improvement-South West

phcontractssouthwest@nhs.net

www.england.nhs.uk and www.improvement.nhs.uk