

Vaccination Transformation Programme (VTP) e-newsletter – issue 1 (Oct 19)

Dear colleague

Welcome to the first issue of the Vaccination Transformation Programme (VTP) e-newsletter, which will provide quarterly updates on work underway to modernise the delivery of vaccinations across Scotland. It aims to provide public health, health improvement, primary care, health and social care and third sector colleagues with information about how new service delivery models are being developed, tested, implemented and supported to ensure the health of the Scottish public.

Modernising the delivery of the flu vaccination programme in 2019/20

The delivery of vaccination programmes is transferring from GP practice staff to other appropriate NHS professionals under the Vaccination Transformation Programme (VTP).

NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde and six local Health & Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs) are piloting the delivery of the flu vaccination programme for 2–5 year-old children at local community immunisation clinics which children already attend for routine childhood immunisations. Children from 42 GP practices are being invited to attend for their flu vaccination at one of 10 local community immunisation clinics across the NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde region, rather than receiving the vaccine from their own GP practice staff. Parents/carers will receive a local appointment invitation letter 2–3 weeks prior to their appointment. Clinics will start the week beginning 7 October 2019. Overall, around 6,000 children will be eligible through this pilot. GP practices not involved in the pilot remain responsible for delivering flu vaccination to 2–5 year olds this year.

NHS Lanarkshire and their associated Health & Social Care Partnerships are piloting the delivery of flu vaccination for all 2–5 year olds via community based clinics where the vaccines will be administered by managed staff. Parents/carers are invited to phone a central number to make an appointment, rather than call their own GP practice. Children are then offered an appointment for their flu vaccination at a nearby practice or community based clinic.

Within Lanarkshire, flu vaccines for all 65 to 74 year olds have also been transferred away from GP delivery in the 2019/20 flu season. The eligible population are being asked to call their GP practice to make an appointment at a clinic (either practice or



community based) where the vaccine will be administered by managed health and social care staff.

Supporting members of the deaf community

National flu vaccination invitation letters are being sent to all adults aged 65 or over (by 31 March 2020) as well as to parents/carers of all children aged 2–5 (as of 1 September 2019). This year, these letters include a Quick Response (QR) code which links directly to British Sign Language (BSL) videos explaining why it's important to get the flu vaccine. It also provides a short web address alongside the QR code. To watch immunisation videos in BSL, visit www.nhsinform.scot/bsl

Material to support this year's flu vaccination programme

To support communications with members of the public about vaccination service delivery change under VTP, NHS Health Scotland has developed tailored flu posters for pregnant women, 2–5 year olds, adults at risk and adults over 65, delivered via their [Web2Print service](#). There is also new online information on NHS Inform about [how to arrange a flu vaccination](#). Each Health Board provided wording for the Web2Print posters and NHS Inform to reflect local service changes.

Web2Print posters provide nationally agreed artwork with clear, locally appropriate calls to action for members of the public. The benefit of Web2Print posters is that these can be tailored, ordered and distributed to only those GP practices involved in service change.

National update from Scottish Government

IT is of course one of the most fundamental issues affecting transformation. The Scottish Government VTP team are exploring a number of avenues to support immunisation delivery, both in the short to medium term, and beyond VTP. They are working closely with the team building the new CHI/Child Health replacement system, the Scottish Child Public Health & Wellbeing System (SCPHWS), to ensure that vaccination programmes in the years to come are underpinned by a robust, flexible IT system which can support a 21st-century immunisation service. However, SCPHWS is still some way off, so they are also exploring what can be done with existing NHS IT systems to see if these can be adapted to support transformation of services during VTP. In line with the VTP's ethos of empowering local decision-making, it will be for each Health Board to decide which system(s) to use in their area. They are working closely with representatives from each Health Board to identify the optimum interim solution for them.

At the start of October, the Primary Care Division published the [2019/20 Statement of Financial Entitlements](#) (SFE) for GMS Contractors. The key changes to this year's SFE is the removal of the Childhood Immunisations Directed Enhanced Service. These are now published as the [Childhood Immunisation Scheme \(Directed Enhanced Services\) \(Scotland\) Directions 2019](#).

Public views of vaccination service delivery

To help inform how vaccination services are modernised under VTP, NHS Health Scotland commissioned focus group discussions with adults living in different areas of Scotland to find out '[Public Views of Vaccination Service Delivery](#)'. This study explored people's current experience of vaccination services and views on what they consider to be the key elements of an effective vaccination service delivery model in the future. People noted that vaccinations are important and services should be made as accessible and convenient as possible (e.g. location, appointment slots and booking processes).

Scottish vaccine update

Health Protection Scotland regularly publish the [Scottish Vaccine Update](#), which is a national bulletin on immunisation in Scotland. It aims to provide frontline health professionals in Scotland with information and practical advice on immunisation policy and practice together with vaccine supply information. [Issue 72](#) is now available.

Get in touch

If you have any questions about VTP, please email vtp@gov.scot. You can also contact your local VTP Business Change Manager in each Health Board. Find contact details on the [VTP national webpage](#).

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