

PM reference Group Meeting

15 9 20

Flu Update

NHSE/I have recently published the updated flu specification for 20/21 and the updated DES directions. Practice should've responded to commissioners regarding this by 14th September. We are currently awaiting additional BMA guidance. The NHSE FAQ document is due to be published shortly.

Relevant link is - <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/directed-enhanced-service-specification-seasonal-influenza-and-pneumococcal-polysaccharide-vaccination-programme-2020-21/>

Practices working in their PCNs where appropriate are encouraged to work together with pharmacies to support the 2020/21 flu campaign. This is even more important in light of COVID-19, and the challenges that we face in delivering this year's flu programme.

As in previous years, this is a national service with both practices and community pharmacies providing NHS flu vaccinations, and we all have a role to play in identifying and engaging patients and vaccinating to protect as many as possible at a very vulnerable time.

Practices and pharmacies should talk to each other about the vaccination service they are planning to offer to understand each other's plans. Where possible discussions should include how to reduce health inequalities and how to target harder to reach or under vaccinated populations which can help achieve an effective campaign.

This year the new Investment and Impact Fund includes a shared goal across the PCN to provide immunisations to patients 65 years and over and this includes those given both by practices and pharmacies in the area. Read more in the GP contract agreement document.

In terms of local engagement, the LMC is attending both the HCV ICS Flu Board meeting as well as the LPC/LMC/GP Flu Provision Group – we will share any relevant updates and documents. Helen Phillips is providing a regular FAQ document which has recently been updated and shared with practices