

Coronavirus - LMC Update February 18th 2021

Vaccine Supply Issues

Several constituents have been in touch to report problems with the supply of vaccinations, including a shortage of stock and late notification of vaccine allocations. We have been in touch with NHS England and Improvement who have responded as follows:

“An algorithm has been used to allocate available vaccine to PCN sites proportionately to the number of patients left to vaccinate in priority cohorts, unfortunately this has caused a number of issues locally and we are doing our best to work through these and address the issues you set out.

We are working towards giving sites greater notification of their vaccine allocations moving forward. We recognise that it is challenging for sites to organise clinics with short notice. We intend to notify sites of their vaccine supply in early March very soon.

The national NHSEI team are also making improvements to the Local Vaccination Service online portal so that PCN sites will have greater visibility of their allocations and the opportunity to request amendments to these via the portal if necessary.”

We will continue to monitor the situation with vaccine supply. Please continue to report any issues.

Vaccine Hesitancy

Surveys have shown stark differences by ethnic group in attitudes to COVID vaccines, and a quarter of younger women fear it would affect fertility. The BMA has published [guidance and resources on how to communicate with different groups about the vaccine.](#)

CCGs across the Humber, Coast and Vale area, have come together to coordinate video messages from local GPs, and are working to promote them to enhance confidence in the vaccine and to dispel any vaccine myths. These videos are currently available in English, Polish, Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi and Gujarati. The playlist can be found on the [Humber, Coast and Vale YouTube channel here.](#)

The British Fertility Society and Association of Reproductive and Clinical Scientists has also published some [COVID-19 Vaccines FAQs](#) to help address some of the vaccine hesitancy relating to fertility.

Read the [BMA's guidance on the COVID-19 vaccination programme](#) which includes information about what is expected of practices and the support available to enable practices to prioritise vaccine delivery.

Vaccination Record Query Helpdesk

A new COVID-19 vaccination information [web resource and helpdesk](#) has been set up for practice managers to help find out answers to questions about records of vaccinations. You can use the service to find out how COVID-19 vaccinations are recorded, how long it takes, common errors or difficulties and how to get help.

Recent Updates

Important updates regarding the vaccination programme:

- Additional cohort of patients identified at increased risk from COVID-19, and the implications for their vaccination, support and advice – [see the letter to GPs](#) about the additional group with specific multiple risk factor.
- Vaccination of JCVI cohorts 5-6 and additional funding for vaccination in residential settings – [see the letter to GPs](#) which includes details on an additional supplement of £10 for each vaccination administered to eligible residents and staff in residential settings.

NHSE/ Primary Care Bulletins

All NHSEI bulletins, plus sign up link, can be found on the NHSE website [here](#). Recent editions and summary of contents:

- **16/02/2021**: Additional cohort of patients identified at increased risk from COVID-19; Vaccinating non-NHS frontline healthcare workers; Nationally recruited clinical and volunteer roles; Deploying GP returners to support local vaccinations; NHS Cervical Screening Programme - Sample Taker Training guidelines; Easter bank holiday opening - Good Friday (2 April) and Easter Monday (5 April); NHS Discharge Medicines Service launched.
- **11/02/2021**: Self-referral for social care worker vaccination; Accessing general practice comms toolkit; Increasing uptake of vaccinations for vulnerable groups of people; Reminder to use Long COVID SNOMED CT codes; NHS Diabetes Advice helpline; Flash Glucose Monitoring for people with learning disabilities living with diabetes.
- **09/02/2021**: Call for people aged 70 and over to contact the NHS for their COVID-19 vaccination; Your top tips for vaccination services; Vaccination record query helpdesk; The National COVID-19 Vaccination procurement channel; Surplus DHSC centrally supplied flu vaccines 2020/21; Flu vaccine reimbursement letter 2021/22; Flu immunisation guidance for 2021/22 season published – community pharmacy; NHS Cervical Screening Programme – sample taking training guidelines and guidance for booking.