

To: All GP Practices in Surrey & Sussex LMCs

7th August 2017

Dear Colleagues

Hepatitis B vaccination for babies

In the context of recent LMC advice regarding adult Hepatitis B vaccine supply problems, I am writing to remind colleagues of the national immunisation programme for Hepatitis B for babies who are born to mothers who are Hepatitis B positive. **There are no supplier problems with this vaccine**, but the LMC notes that in terms of queries from General Practitioners, many colleagues remain unaware of this programme.

I enclose the full-service specification from the SFE.

The LMC's main concern with this programme is that the only fee payable is the £9.80 flat rate item of service immunisation fee; in this case especially, given the relatively small numbers involved for most practices, the LMC believes there should be recognition of the training and administrative elements of this programme, and there is none.

However, colleagues will also be aware of the significant clinical benefit attached to ensuring such babies are promptly immunised and receive their full course of immunisation; this means that, as the programme is voluntary, if a practice does not wish to undertake such immunisations, patients should be promptly referred to the local paediatric service and a full explanation given to the parents(s) in terms of the significance of the programme.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Dr Julius Parker
Chief Executive

Enc: Appendix

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