

SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

NEWSFLASH

PCV AND HIB MEN C CLAIMS

As some practices will be aware, the LMC was made aware of considerable disquiet with regards to claims and payments for the above vaccinations dating back to 2006. This only came to light following information provided by the Doncaster Shared Service Agency.

When it became apparent that a significant number of practices had not been submitting claims for some considerable time and that NHS Sheffield's (NHSS) view was that a Chief Medical Officer (CMO) communication to practices clearly laid out the process for claims and payments and, therefore, practices should have been aware of the mechanism in place, the LMC offered to broker a meeting.

It has always been the LMC's view that practices performed this work in good faith and that this should be recognised. However, within the regulations, as outlined in the Statement of Financial Entitlement (SFE), NHSS is only obliged to pay claims made within six months of the administration of the vaccine.

The LMC asked NHSS to come back with some form of compromise / compensation for those practices who felt they had performed the work in good faith, and had not received appropriate communication or remuneration. Following protracted discussions, NHSS offered an extension to the deadline, as some form of compromise, for the work that they recognise practices have undertaken.

The details of the compromise position were published in NHSS's e-bulletin dated 25 January 2013, as follows:

Following negotiations between NHS Sheffield (NHSS), LMC and practice representatives, NHSS has agreed that any claims for PCV and Hib Men C that have not been submitted by practices can be backdated to April 2011.

Outstanding claims should be forwarded to Doncaster Shared Services Agency for the attention of:

***Lesley Micklethwaite Lesley.micklethwaite@doncasterpct.nhs.uk 01302 796515 or
Mary Freeman mary.freeman@doncasterpct.nhs.uk 01302 566612.***

Please note all backdated claims must be submitted by 15th March at the latest to ensure that they can be accounted for by the PCT in the current financial year. Any claims (over 6 months old) not submitted by this date will not be funded.

Given that NHSS's original position was that claims could not be backdated beyond six months, this is a compromise position, which has been estimated to cost NHSS in the region of £50K. Although it may only seem small compensation, it seemed to the LMC Executive that this was at least a gesture on the part of NHSS, rather than a blanket refusal.

31 January 2013