

To:  
Practice Managers (for circulation to General  
Practitioners & Practice Nurses)

Copied to:  
DsPH  
CCG Accountable Officers  
School-based immunisation providers  
CHIS providers  
Flu programme board members

15<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Dear Colleague

### **Childhood nasal flu vaccination**

In 2016/17, all children in school years 1, 2 and 3 will be offered nasal flu vaccination in school\*. In addition, all children in school years 1 to 6 attending school in Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland will again be offered vaccination.

Vaccination will be offered to **all** children identified above during the autumn term of the 2016/17 academic year. This includes children in clinical risk groups and children attending special schools.

\*Children home schooled/educated out of school in these year groups will be offered vaccination by the school-based immunisation provider in a community setting.

The service will be offered in schools by the following providers across Cumbria and the North East and is commissioned by NHS England:

- Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Northumbria Health Care NHS Foundation Trust
- Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust
- Provider for Durham, Darlington and Tees areas to be confirmed

### **Action for practices**

#### ***Children in clinical risk groups***

Although children in clinical risk groups will be offered vaccination by the school-based immunisation provider, **practices should ensure that they continue to call all eligible children in clinical risk groups** in line with the GP Practice's Childhood Seasonal Influenza Enhanced Service. This is required as it is important that those in clinical risk groups are able to access the vaccination as early as possible in the season.

Immunisers in primary care are reminded of the need to therefore ensure that a child in a clinical risk group has not received the vaccination elsewhere before administering in practice.

Children in clinical risk groups who do not attend school on the day of vaccination will be referred back to the practice. These children are eligible for Fluenz-Tetra® at the practice.

Children who have contraindications to Fluenz-Tetra® will be referred back to the practice for injectable vaccine. It is anticipated that this will be a small number who would anyway be eligible as they are in

clinical risk groups.

Practices can claim for payment for any of these groups in the normal way.

***Children not in clinical risk groups***

Healthy children (not in an at risk group) who do not attend school on the day or where parents do not consent should **not** be offered alternative vaccination as they are not eligible outside the agreed school-based programme.

Practices will be informed by the Child Health Records Department (CHRD) of children, registered with your Practice, who have received this vaccine in school so that you can update your records accordingly.

If you have any questions about this flu programme please do not hesitate to contact your provider (see over page).

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glen Wilson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Glen Wilson  
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Provider organisation	Local authority areas covered	Contact for the school based programme	
		Name	Email
Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Cumbria	Nicola Askew	<a href="mailto:Nicola.askew@cumbria.nhs.uk">Nicola.askew@cumbria.nhs.uk</a>
Northumbria Health Care NHS Foundation Trust	Northumberland North Tyneside	Veronica Hetherington	<a href="mailto:Veronica.Hetherington@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk">Veronica.Hetherington@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk</a>
Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation	Newcastle	Tina Bolton	<a href="mailto:tina.bolton@nuth.nhs.uk">tina.bolton@nuth.nhs.uk</a>
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	South Tyneside Sunderland Gateshead	Lynn Robertshaw	<a href="mailto:Lynn.Robertshaw@stft.nhs.uk">Lynn.Robertshaw@stft.nhs.uk</a>
To be confirmed	Durham Darlington Hartlepool Stockton Redcar and Cleveland Middlesbrough	Kate Birkenhead	<a href="mailto:kate.birkenhead@nhs.net">kate.birkenhead@nhs.net</a>