

Immunisation news

Flu vaccine uptake reports for winter 2011/12

These two reports present the results of the surveys on flu vaccine uptake in GP patients, including pregnant women, and healthcare workers at national, SHA and trust level for winter 2011/12 ([see web link 1](#)). They provide information on the uptake of flu vaccine by different age and clinical risk groups of GP patients and different staff groups of frontline healthcare workers by geographical area. The reports, which should help those planning local vaccination campaigns for the coming flu season in their efforts to improve flu vaccine uptake, reveal that:

- nearly seven million people aged 65 and over were vaccinated against flu last year – an increase of around 400,000 on the previous year
- flu vaccine coverage in England is among the highest in the world
- the UK is one of very few countries to be close to reaching the World Health Organization target of vaccinating 75 per cent of people aged 65 and over
- nearly half a million healthcare workers were vaccinated against flu last year – an increase of nearly 100,000 on the previous year.

However, despite these impressive figures, we are still some way short of the Chief Medical Officer's aspirational levels of vaccination of the most vulnerable groups and frontline healthcare workers. Accordingly, the Department will continue working with health and social care staff to improve uptake in all these groups.

Migrant health in the primary care setting, with a focus on infectious diseases

A free training event for primary care practitioners, organised by the Health Protection Agency, is taking place on Monday 12 November 2012 in central London. The day will include talks from experts in the diagnosis and management of TB, HIV, hepatitis and parasitic infections as well as information about entitlements to NHS care, catching up immunisations for migrants and new entrant health checks. Full details including how to register are available at [web link 2](#).



How to view order history and amend orders on ImmForm

Do you know that you can view your order history for up to 18 months in the past? We have created a helpsheet with useful information on how to view your order history, amend orders and cancel orders on ImmForm. For more information see Helpsheet 12 at [web link 3](#).

ImmForm users automatically subscribed to receive Vaccine Update

In accordance with the Terms of Use for the ImmForm website, our policy is to register all current ImmForm users to receive Vaccine Update. This newsletter provides current and important information on the routine immunisation programme. You can register additional subscribers or unsubscribe from this newsletter by e-mailing vaccine.supply@dh.gsi.gov.uk

ImmForm routine maintenance work on 2 July 2012

ImmForm is scheduled to be unavailable on Monday, 2 July from 6pm to approximately 8pm for planned maintenance work. Please avoid accessing the website between these times.

Vaccine supply

Deliveries of vaccines during the Olympics and Paralympics

The Department of Health's vaccine distributor plans to make deliveries in and around London as normal, but please note the following:

- The Olympic triathlon and road cycling events will involve week-day road closures on two days. Delivery locations on these routes will receive their orders on the following working day.
- Although deliveries will continue to be made as usual during the Olympics and Paralympics, the expected increase in traffic raises the possibility that some deliveries could be delayed. Those delivery locations most likely to be adversely affected will be advised accordingly. Where possible, they will be asked to order a week earlier to mitigate this risk.

Change of HPV vaccine from Cervarix® to Gardasil® in September

Colleagues are reminded of this change as featured in previous issues of *Vaccine Update*.

Gardasil® will be available to order through ImmForm from 1 August 2012 in readiness for the start of the programme on 1 September 2012. The vaccine will be supplied as a single dose pack containing a 0.5ml pre-filled syringe with two unattached needles.

Gardasil® should not be used before 1 September 2012.

Incomplete Cervarix® courses started before 1 September 2012 should be completed using Cervarix®. Please aim to complete these courses by April 2013 which is when most of the Cervarix® stock expires. You will still be able to order a small amount of Cervarix® (i.e. orders will be capped) after 1 September 2012 for completion of Cervarix® courses. Please only order the amount of Cervarix® needed for any outstanding courses.

Allocations for each PCT

An allocation of Gardasil® stock for each PCT will be set in the first instance based on the relative cohort size of 12- to 13-year-old girls as defined in the Annual 2010-11 HPV PCT Uptake Survey. These allocations will be announced in due course.

All orders placed within the PCT will be deducted from that PCT's allocation. It is important that PCTs and their GP practices/pharmacies are to be mindful of vaccine wastage and do not over order for the start of the school term.

Ordering of Gardasil® through ImmForm

Gardasil® will be available to order by the same ImmForm users that currently order Cervarix®. This includes two groups of users:

- specific PCT users that are able to place orders for delivery to their GP practices/pharmacies.
- all GP practices/pharmacies. They are able to order for delivery to their own location.

Gardasil® should be ordered in three phases corresponding to the first, second and third doses:

- the first dose can be ordered from 1 August 2012
- the second dose can be ordered from 1 September 2012
- the third dose can be ordered from 1 January 2013

Multiple orders can be made within this timeframe, up to the total amount of vaccine required for each individual phase, which has been allocated and reserved for each PCT based on the relative cohort size. These will be announced in due course.

Supplies can be delivered to multiple points within a PCT area, providing the Movianto UK account numbers are given for those delivery points when the named person places the order. Delivery points should be made aware of all deliveries that are due. Deliveries will be made according to each location's usual delivery day. This is shown on ImmForm on the order page.

Further information regarding ordering via ImmForm is available as follows:

- helpsheets – <http://immunisation.dh.gov.uk/immform-helpsheets/>
- online ImmForm registration – www.immform.dh.gov.uk/Registration
- ImmForm helpdesk – 0844 376 0040

Vaccine storage

Please ensure you have sufficient fridge space before ordering. Each site holding vaccine is asked to review current stocks of all vaccines. Two to four weeks' of stock is recommended, and higher stock levels should be reduced to this level.

Vaccine wastage

Effective management of vaccines throughout the supply chain is essential to reduce vaccine wastage. PCTs should have effective local protocols that reduce vaccine wastage to a minimum. Even small percentage reductions in vaccine wastage will have a major impact on the financing of vaccine supplies.

PCT allocations will be sufficient to immunise all girls in the defined cohort. As vaccine uptake is likely to be high, vaccine wastage must be kept to a minimum to ensure sufficient vaccine is available.

Pediacel[®] (DTaP/IPV/Hib)

The Pediacel[®] presentation is changing from a vial to a single dose pre-filled syringe with two separate needles. Distribution of Pediacel[®] pre-filled syringes from Movianto for the childhood Immunisation programme will start in the autumn 2012.

Web links

Web link 1 <http://immunisation.dh.gov.uk/>

Web link 2 <http://www.hpa-events.org.uk/MH12>

Web link 3 <http://immunisation.dh.gov.uk/immform-helpsheets/>

Web link 4 <http://immunisation.dh.gov.uk/vu-187-mar-2012/>

Register now – feedback – contact us

To receive a copy of Vaccine Update emailed direct to you each month, to provide any comments or suggestions, or if you have a query about any aspect of vaccine supply, please email us at vaccine.supply@dh.gsi.gov.uk

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