Vaccinations and Immunisations

The BMA webpage has been re-arranged so that all documents and guidance related to vaccinations and immunisations are available on the same page of the BMA website.

The page includes a summary table outlining the recent vaccination changes (Pertussis for pregnant women, Meningitis C, MMR catch-up programme, Rotavirus, childhood flu and Shingles catch-up). The Department of health has also published a useful poster outlining childhood vaccinations from June 2013, available here.

Headlines on recent vaccination and immunisation changes are below:

MMR flyers and templates

Please find below two flyers that Public Health England has published relating to measles. One is for GPs and the other is for schools.

- Measles don't let your child catch it flyer for GPs
- Measles don't let your child catch it flyer for schools

It has also published template letters for inviting patients in for the vaccine. These can be found online. There is more than one template depending on age and whether or not a dose has already been received. Information about the MMR catch-up programmes in England and Wales, including the specification and new joint FAQs [GPC, NHS England and NHS Employers], is now available on the BMA website.

Flu immunisation programme 2013 / 14 and vaccinations update

The Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England have written to GPs, Area Teams and CCGs outlining the arrangements for the flu vaccination programme for 2013/14 - the letter is available online. Note the extension of the flu programme from 1 September 2013 to include children aged 2 who are to be given a nasal flu vaccine.

Shingles catch-up and children's flu vaccination programmes

From 1 September, in addition to the current influenza DES, practices should vaccinate children who are 2-3 years old, but not yet four, on 1 September 2013 on either:
(a) a proactive call basis, if not considered at-risk, or

(b) a proactive call and recall basis, if considered at-risk.

From 1 September 2013, practices should provide the shingles vaccine to patients aged 70, but not yet 71 [route cohort] and all patients aged 79 [catch-up cohort], on an opportunistic basis.

Joint FAQs and a summary table to cover all the recent vaccination changes will be published shortly.