

[View this email in your browser](#)



Primary Care Connect

THE WEEKLY PRIMARY CARE UPDATE FOR
HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

Issue 17 | 22 September 2021

Dear colleagues,

This week will prove to be a pivotal time in the COVID-19 vaccination programme. Across the Hampshire and the Isle of Wight ICS footprint we have now delivered more than 2.62m doses of COVID-19 vaccines. This is a tremendous achievement and has not only saved many lives but has also prevented many people developing serious symptoms.

We now move to phase three of the programme and we have started to invite people for a booster dose. Those eligible are people in cohorts 1-9 who will generally be offered the Pfizer jab, irrespective of which vaccine the person received as a primary course, or as an alternative, a half dose of the Moderna vaccine. Patients who cannot have either of these, for example due to allergies, will be offered the AstraZeneca vaccine. In-line with national guidance, the initial focus will be on those most vulnerable, especially



people need to have at least a six-month gap between their second dose and the booster dose.

The other priority group for vaccination is those children aged 12-15 who have no risk factors. This is in addition to in addition to vulnerable children 12-15 who are already being offered the vaccine. The Joint Committee for Vaccinations and Immunisations said that the benefits of vaccination were marginal for the individual, but this did not consider the wider societal issues such as the mental health and wellbeing of children being off school due to cover or the transmission of COVID-19 to family members or to the community.

[More information and FAQs for patients and the public on COVID-19 booster doses, vaccines for 12 to 15 year olds and the wider programme](#), are available on the Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight CCG website.

Thank you all for your continued hard work to deliver the COVID-19 vaccination programme, alongside your daily general practice duties.

Dr Nigel Watson

Clinical lead COVID-19 vaccination programme – Hampshire and Isle of Wight

Contents

Requires action

[Blood bottle shortage update](#)

[Vaccination registration reminder](#)

[Support needed to vaccinate 12-15 year olds](#)

[NHSEI seeking GP advisers who reflect the diversity of the communities we serve](#)

Resources and training

[Why are practices working differently poster](#)

[GP complaints training](#)

[New training opportunities available](#)

[How to submit a story for the bulletin - we want your news!](#)

For information

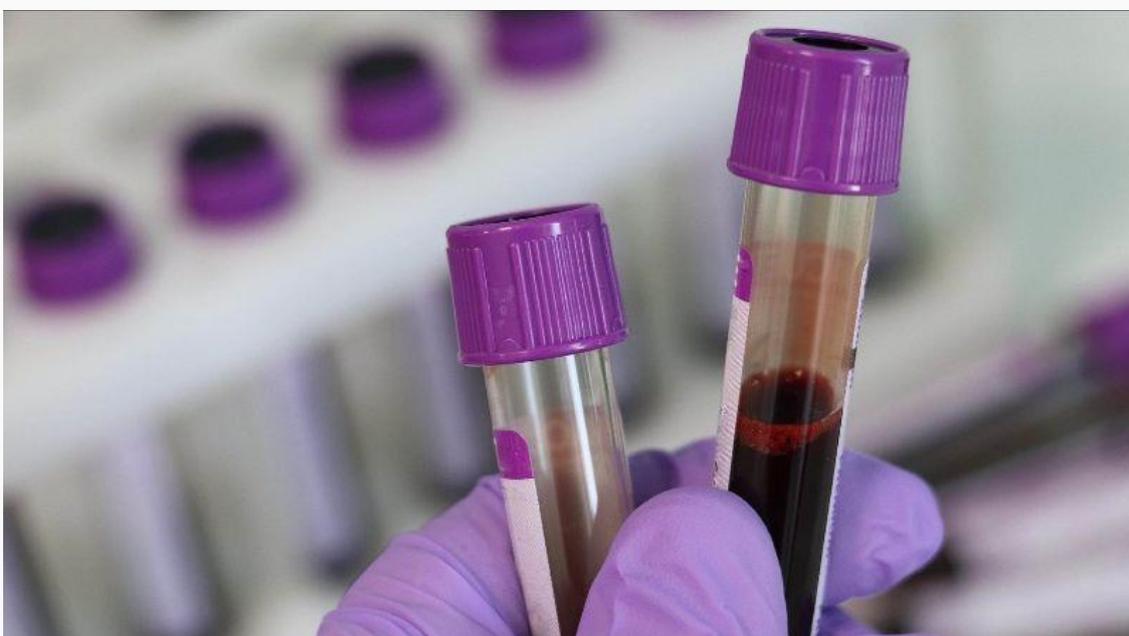
[Medicines Optimisation bulletin 54](#)

Managing the closure of the Shielded Patient List

Management of children presenting with Bronchiolitis and viral induced wheeze

Eye health of people with learning disabilities for National Eye Health Week

Blood bottle shortage update



NHS England and Improvement (NHSEI) has secured nine million additional blood tube bottles from US stocks.

NHSEI said it has been working closely with the Department for Health and Social Care, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and NHS Supply Chain, to secure the stock.

MHRA has approved these for use in the UK by way of an Exceptional Use Authorisation (EUA).

Becton Dickinson has now completed improvements to its manufacturing facility in the UK and expects its production capacity to recover through September.

These developments, alongside the efforts of NHS staff to manage use, mean that the supply situation is no longer as constrained as when we wrote to you on 26 August. However, the issue is not yet completely resolved.

While supply remains constrained it is vital to optimise the use of blood tubes and to ensure that testing does not exceed levels recorded during June and July 2021.

To support this, NHSEI has developed [best practice guidance](#) for primary care and secondary care.

Message on behalf of the Southern Counties Pathology Network

We are pleased to report that the international blood tube supply chain issue is very slowly resolving, but it will be several months before stock levels are fully restored, and several weeks before we start to see any increase in deliveries.

Therefore it is essential to continue to limit blood requests to enable the gradual build-up of stock.

Nationally, clinicians are being asked to continue to assess the urgency of blood tests and only request those that can't wait. Primary care, acute providers and all other providers are asked to continue to manage their stock to maintain no more than five days stock.

You will be notified as soon as the increased deliveries flow through to your supplier, and at this point you will be able to order more and hold more stock, and can slowly start to phase in blood tests that have been postponed. It will be essential that this work is phased to avoid depleting the stock.

Once normal supply is achieved (estimated November), it is requested that, where safe to do so, providers maintain the best practice methods that they implemented during the shortage, to ensure an overall reduction of tube usage long term.

In summary, the issue is resolving but we will not see the benefit of this for an expected two-three weeks, and therefore please continue to manage your stock carefully and limit blood requests where safe to do so.

Thank you.

Vaccination registration reminder



Message from Jo Perry, consultant supporting Hampshire and Isle of Wight Workforce Collaboration Programmes

You will know we are now embarking on the next phase of the COVID-19 vaccination programme and preparing for the forthcoming flu vaccination programme for 2021 as well.

It is an opportune moment to remind all PCNs, and, in fact, all practices, of the importance of maintaining careful oversight of vaccinators' registrations, whether they are already working with you or if you are planning to recruit additional support over the next few months.

As you will already be aware, it is vital to ensure careful oversight of their suitability to deliver vaccinations under Patient Group Directions (PGD), Patient Specific Directions (PSD) and/or in line with the national protocol (revised protocols due out 21 September).

Safe recruitment processes are essential and must be maintained even during these challenging times. As discussed at the weekly PCN meeting on 14 September, we will be seeking assurance that professional registration, employment checks/onboarding and appropriate training for your workforce are in place as a priority to protect staff and

patients, and CQC regulation standards are adhered to. An assurance note will be circulated in the next few days.

If you need any specific advice/guidance in relation to compliance checks, registration, onboarding or training, please contact Jessica our PCN HR Business Partner Jessica.ferguson1@nhs.net

Support needed to vaccinate 12-15 year olds



The vaccination programme team is seeking support to deliver vaccines in schools for healthy 12-15 year olds.

This is an intense programme to be delivered in a short timeframe, alongside adult boosters, and we would really value additional support from staff who are already trained vaccinators (registered or unregistered) and ideally have some experience of working with children.

We are not asking you to release staff from their normal duties and impact on your own service delivery. However, part time, retired and your own bank staff may be willing and able to help out.

Staff can be deployed under signed Memorandum of Understanding staff sharing

arrangements, and the programme will reimburse the practice for additional pay costs.

To enter a school, staff must have the enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, adult and child barring list check, and have completed Safeguarding Children - Level 2 and Resuscitation Paediatric - Level 2.

Registered healthcare professionals conducting clinical assessment and consent should be competent in having more challenging risk/benefit conversations and dealing with more complex consent situations, and also be competent in the use of the Gillick principle.

Anyone interested in supporting this can contact kenyad.pereira@nhs.net or jessica.ferguson1@nhs.net

NHSEI seeking GP advisers who reflect the diversity of the communities we serve



NHS England and Improvement is seeking to recruit GP clinical advisers to work within the South East region (Kent, Surrey Sussex, Hampshire, Thames Valley and Isle of Wight).

NHSEI is actively seeking applications from candidates who reflect the diversity of the communities we serve.

[Find out more about the role and a person specification.](#)

Why are practices working differently poster



The communications and engagement team has produced a Hampshire and Isle of Wight version of a poster which is being used nationally called 'why are GP practices still working differently?'.

The poster has been modified to include our Hampshire and Isle of Wight logo, along with information for general members of the public including:

- How are practices working now
- Why do receptionists ask personal questions
- I wanted to see my GP, why am I seeing someone else
- Why aren't face-to-face appointments given as the default

Please download and use this poster where appropriate at your practice.

GP complaints training



NHS England and Improvement would like to invite you to attend a free three-hour GP

Complaints Handling workshop.

The workshops have been developed to support you and your practice team in preventing and managing complaints and improving the service provided to patients. It will encompass a presentation, reflective exercises, and facilitated group discussions.

The workshops will cover:

- What triggers complaints and how to prevent them
- How your practice and NHS England fit into the overall complaints process
- How to manage and respond to a complaint effectively

The workshop will be facilitated by Lee Bennett, strategic complaints lead at NHS England and Dr Claire Macaulay, independent medico-legal consultant.

The facilitators bring expert experience of supporting primary care teams to manage and respond to complaints with valuable insight into why complaints are raised and how they can be effectively handled.

By the end of the workshop delegates will have an understanding of professional complaints handling and be able to select the appropriate management techniques and implement the relevant strategies.

[You can find out more about the course, dates and venues.](#)

New training opportunities available



Details of [two new courses](#) are available on the GP Portal:

- Innovative Collaborative Practice Programme

- Personalised Care Institute free core skills

How to submit a story for the bulletin - we want your news!



Welcome to our new-look bulletin - we hope you are finding it useful!

If you have any content you would like to see included in Primary Care Connect then we would love to hear from you.

When you submit a story please provide the following:

- **A short headline**
- **A few paragraphs to say what the story is**
- **Clearly include any links or documents that accompany the piece**
- **A suitable image or a suggestion of the type of image to go with the piece**

Deadline for content is **midday Tuesday**. Items submitted after this will be considered as

to whether it needs to be included in the following day's bulletin, or if it can be held for an extra week.

Please send content to hsiccg_gpportal@nhs.net

Primary Care Connect Portal

Wessex LMC

NHS England bulletin



Copyright © 2021 Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

hsiccg_gpportal@nhs.net

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, you can [unsubscribe from this list](#).