

To: SHA Flu Leads
PCT Immunisation co-ordinators

Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
LONDON
SE1 8UG

27th September 2010

Copy: All Pharmacists

Gateway Reference Number: 14850

Dear Colleague,

Delays in deliveries of seasonal influenza vaccine 2010.

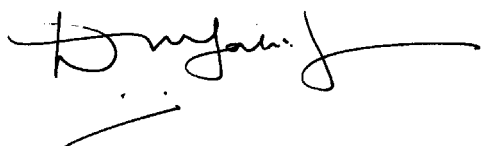
We are aware that there are delays in deliveries of some seasonal influenza vaccines due to packaging problems. We understand that the relevant companies have written out to all affected surgeries. The companies have assured us that the outstanding deliveries should be fulfilled by the end of October or shortly thereafter.

The Department of Health recommends that affected GP surgeries should, in the first instance, try to reschedule their clinics in line with their updated delivery schedules or to contact other flu manufacturers to see if they can provide stocks of vaccine to cover clinics planned for October. The influenza vaccine manufacturers offering vaccines for the UK market are listed in the CMO letter that was sent out in May:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Lettersandcirculars/Professionalletters/Chiefmedicalofficerletters/DH_116507

If other more expensive vaccines are used, such as INTANZA™, GPs should be aware that this may incur significantly increased costs to their Primary Care Trusts.

Yours sincerely



Professor D M SALISBURY CB
FRCP FRCPCH FFPH
Director of Immunisation