



Department
of Health



NHS public health functions agreement

Variation to the 2016-17 agreement on public health
functions to be exercised by NHS England

Title:

NHS public health functions agreement, Variation to the 2016-17 agreement on public health functions to be exercised by NHS England

Author:

PHD/ IH&PHD/ PHPSU/ 10100

Document Purpose:

Policy

Publication date:

June 2016

Target audience:

NHS England Regional Directors

Contact details:

Public health policy and strategy unit

phpsu@dh.gsi.gov.uk

You may re-use the text of this document (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/

© Crown copyright

Published to gov.uk, in PDF format only.

www.gov.uk/dh

NHS England Publications Gateway Reference 05171

NHS public health functions agreement

Variation to the 2016-17 agreement on public health functions to be exercised by NHS England

Contents

- Contents4
- The variation.....5
- 1. Purpose6
- 2. Changes7

The variation

This variation is made to the NHS public health functions agreement 2016-17 (the "2016-17 agreement"), published in December 2015 pursuant to section 7A of the National Health Service Act 2006 between the Secretary of State for Health and NHS England. It is made in accordance with paragraphs 3.17 to 3.19 of that agreement.

The 2016-17 agreement is available at www.gov.uk (search for "commissioning public health").

All current service specifications are available at www.england.nhs.uk (search for "public health commissioning").

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This is a variation to the 2016-17 agreement.
- 1.2. The NHS Commissioning Board is known as NHS England.
- 1.3. The change coming into force under this variation is:
 - From 1st June 2016, services for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) as currently included within Annex A: Immunisation programmes will be commissioned via specialised commissioning and not as part of the NHS public health functions agreement (Section 7a).
- 1.4. In practical terms, this variation will not change who is immunised. However it will ensure:
 - a strategic fit of RSV with other specialised services such as neonatal critical care
 - alignment of commissioning and assurance with financial flows
 - removal of the need for the Public Health England immunisation team to monitor or quality assure the RSV programme. This will now be the responsibility of NHS England Specialised Commissioning.
- 1.5. This change will come into force on the date that this agreement is made.

2. Changes

- 2.1. From the date this variation comes into force, the table below headed Table B2 (Variation No.1) will be added to Table B2 in the 2016-17 agreement.

Table B2 (Variation No.1): Services for Respiratory Syncytial Virus

Change to agreement
<p>The transfer of responsibility for commissioning services for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) (as included within Annex A: Immunisation programmes) from the NHS public health functions agreement (Section 7a) to NHS England Specialised Commissioning will take place on 1st June 2016.</p> <p>From this date, NHS England will no longer be responsible for commissioning RSV through the public health functions agreement and Public Health England will no longer be responsible for preparing the national service specification or providing advice on the RSV programme. This will now be the responsibility of NHS England Specialised Commissioning.</p>