



Winter is coming!

Reminder about meningococcal disease

We are entering the 2018/ 2019 meningococcal season and have already seen an increase in cases. The UK has the most comprehensive national meningococcal vaccination programme in the world. The programme aims to protect those most at risk, and the wider population, against meningococcal A, B, C, W and Y disease. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent this devastating disease and it is important to ensure that all those who are eligible and remain unvaccinated are offered vaccination at every opportunity.

The MenACWY vaccine is offered routinely in schools at 13-15 years of age (school years 9 or 10) and we know that vaccine coverage in this age group is high. Coverage in older adolescents and young adults who were targeted through catch-up campaigns is lower. All young people born on or after 1 September 1996 and aged 15 years or older remain eligible for MenACWY vaccine up to their 25th birthday, including those who are not in higher education. The JCVI has recently issued a statement in which it sets out its belief that optimum control of MenC disease can only be achieved if vaccine coverage in older adolescents and young adults is improved at [weblink 1](#). We have recently updated our MenACWY leaflet ([weblink 6](#)) to support this programme.

We would like to thank those in PHE Health Protection Teams and in general practice that help to support the surveillance of these vaccination programmes through the provision of data for each case. This information is invaluable in providing comprehensive monitoring of the programmes and allows us to generate impact and effectiveness data.



CONTENTS

- Reminder about meningococcal disease
- Supplies of Adjuvanted Trivalent Influenza Vaccine (aTIV)
- Tetanus prone wounds?
- Vaccines and porcine gelatine: New translations available!
- Supply of UK-licensed BCG vaccine manufactured by AJ Vaccines (formerly the Statens Serum Institut (SSI)) for the national BCG programme
- Fundamentals of Immunisation
- Fluenz Tetra ordering for the 2018 –19 children's programme in England
- All customers – Christmas and New Year deliveries warning notice
- Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPV)

Supplies of Adjuvanted Trivalent Influenza Vaccine (aTIV)

In October 2017, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advised that those aged 65 and over are offered the adjuvanted trivalent influenza vaccine (Fluad®), which was licensed late in 2017.

JCVI concluded that the adjuvanted trivalent influenza vaccine is more effective and highly cost effective in those aged 65 years and above compared with the non-adjuvanted or ‘normal’ influenza vaccines previously used in the United Kingdom for this age-group.

Deliveries of Fluad® from Seqirus to providers have been staggered with deliveries of 40% in September, 20% in October, and 40% in November 2018. Providers were advised to modify their flu clinic arrangements to take into account the phased delivery of Fluad®. This means that patients are likely to be vaccinated later in the season compared to previous years.

With less than 1% of the vaccine remaining to be delivered and just over 99% of the vaccine delivered to GPs and pharmacies, NHS England are urging those who have not yet had their flu jab to get it as soon as possible.

Tetanus prone wounds?

A new guidance document “Tetanus: guidance for health professionals” has been published. The new guidelines document provides recommendations on the diagnosis and treatment of tetanus and management of tetanus prone wounds, including:

- the use of immunoglobulins for the treatment of clinical tetanus
- the role of laboratory tests in supporting a diagnosis of clinical tetanus
- revised guidance for classifying tetanus-prone injuries
- revised recommendations for use of tetanus specific immunoglobulin/ human normal immunoglobulin following tetanus prone injuries

These revised 2018 guidelines replace previous guidelines on ‘Tetanus: information for health professionals’ and interim guidance on ‘Tetanus immunoglobulin: recommendations on the treatment and prophylaxis of tetanus’ and are published at [weblink 2](#). The Green book chapter has been revised and published [weblink 3](#).

Vaccines and porcine gelatine: New translations available!

We have translated this leaflet into Arabic, Urdu and Bengali and they are available to download at [weblink 4](#).



Fundamentals of Immunisation

UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health
30 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1EH | 11 and 12 March 2019

Course fee: £150

Programme and booking information available at [weblink 7](#).



Public Health England and UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health are running a 'Fundamentals of Immunisation' course in March 2019. This annually held, two day intense theoretical course is designed for those new to a role in immunisation and is most suited to those who give or advise on a range of different vaccines. The course comprises a series of lectures from national immunisation experts and will provide delegates with up-to-the-minute information on the range of topics included in PHE's "National Minimum Standards and Core Curriculum for Immunisation Training". A basic level of prior immunisation knowledge and familiarity with the Green Book (Immunisation against infectious disease) will be assumed.

Vaccine supply (centrally supplied)

Supply of UK-licensed BCG vaccine manufactured by AJ Vaccines (formerly the Statens Serum Institut (SSI)) for the national BCG programme

There is now **no restriction** on order quantities for the AJ Vaccines BCG vaccine for the national BCG programme. To note, at times the shelf life of this product may be relatively short, therefore it is advised not to create locally held stockpiles.

BCG vaccine supplied by AJ Vaccines is presented as a powder for reconstitution in a glass vial with synthetic stopper. Each pack ordered contains 10 vials. One vial of reconstituted vaccine contains 1 ml, corresponding to 10 doses (of 0.1 ml) for adults and children aged 12 months and over or 20 doses (of 0.05 ml) for infants under 12 months of age.

The AJ Vaccines BCG vaccine has replaced the InterVax BCG vaccine for the national BCG programme, please safely dispose of any remaining InterVax BCG product according to local protocols and in line with the guidance specified in Chapter 32 of the Green Book on Tuberculosis

Reminder about MMR vaccine ordering restriction

There are currently two different vaccines available to order for the MMR programme, M-M-RvaxPro[®] and Priorix[®]. Orders for Priorix[®] continue to be capped at 6 packs per order per week for accounts in England and Wales. Controls are also in place for Scottish customers. This is needed to rebalance central supplies.

The alternative MMR vaccine, M-M-RvaxPro[®], remains available to order without restriction. If you specifically require additional Priorix[®] stock, for example because you serve communities that do not accept vaccines that contain porcine gelatine then please contact the ImmForm Helpdesk for assistance at helpdesk@immform.org.uk or 0844 376 0040.

Fluenz Tetra ordering for the 2018 – 19 children's programme in England

Information for General Practice

Controls on the amount of vaccine which can be ordered each week via ImmForm have been updated as planned, and practices are now able to order 20 doses (2 packs) per week (one order per week). Further changes to these order controls may be made at any time, to respond to the programme needs. Any changes will be communicated via the news item on the ImmForm front page. Requests for additional vaccine should continue to be sent to the ImmForm helpdesk (helpdesk@immform.org.uk/ 0844 376 0040) and should be sent in good time before your order cut-off.

Information for Schools Providers

A default cap of 3,000 doses (300 packs) per week, per account remains in place for school providers. If you are a school provider and need to order more than 300 packs in a week, please contact the ImmForm helpdesk to arrange a large order before your order cut-off.

These requests will be dealt with on a case by case basis and will be by exception. If you are covering a large area and require a higher weekly cap than 300 packs (3000 doses) to deliver the programme, please discuss your vaccine requirements with your Commissioner in the first instance and then with their support, request an increase via the ImmForm helpdesk.

Orders will be monitored regularly and Commissioners will be alerted to any requests for additional vaccine or unusual ordering activity.

Inactivated flu vaccine ordering for the 2018-19 children's programme in England

This year PHE is supplying Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine (split virion, inactivated) for all children from six months to less than 18 years old who are contraindicated for Fluenz Tetra (or it is otherwise unsuitable) and are in a clinical risk group. This vaccine has an order cap of 30 doses (30 packs) per week and is available to order in England only.

Additional information

Please refer to guidance from your respective health departments for arrangements in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Please refer to the September edition of Vaccine Update at [weblink 8](#) for further information, including:

- eligibility criteria for the children's flu programme in England;
- the full list of influenza vaccines that have been marketed in the UK for the 2018/ 19 season and their ovalbumin content

All customers – Christmas and New Year deliveries warning notice

Due to the Christmas and New Year Bank Holidays, there will not be any deliveries or order processing by Movianto UK on Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 December 2018 and Tuesday 1 January 2019.

You are reminded to be prepared for the break in deliveries and to order accordingly. Please make sure you have sufficient room in your fridge for any additional vaccine you wish to stock over this holiday period. Out of Schedule deliveries cannot be arranged for failure to place orders in good time.

Please see the table below for revised order cut-off and delivery dates:

- customers with a standard delivery day of Tuesday should be aware that after 18 December, your next available delivery day will be Tuesday 8 January 2019
- customers with a standard delivery day of Wednesday should be aware that after 19 December, your next available delivery day will be Wednesday 2 January 2019

Christmas period orders and deliveries		
Delivery date	Order cut-off date	Order cut-off time
Monday 24 December 2018	Thursday 20 December 2018	11:55 AM
Tuesday 25 December 2018	Closed – No deliveries	
Wednesday 26 December 2018	Closed – No deliveries	
Thursday 27 December 2018	Friday 21 December 2018	11:55 AM
Friday 28 December 2018	Monday 24 December 2018	11:55 AM
Monday 31 December 2018	Thursday 27 December 2018	11:55 AM
Tuesday 1 January 2019	Closed – No deliveries	
Wednesday 2 January 2019	Friday 28 December 2018	11:55 AM
Thursday 3 January 2019	Monday 31 December 2018	11:55 AM
Friday 4 January 2019	Wednesday 2 January 2019	11:55 AM

Non-centrally supplied For the non routine programmes

HEPATITIS A VACCINE

Adult

- **GSK:** Havrix Adult PFS singles and packs of 10 are available
- **Sanofi Pasteur:** Avaxim is currently available for orders without restrictions
- **MSD:** Some limited stocks of **Vaqta Adult** are available at the wholesaler AAH, but MSD is now out of stock. Replenishment is expected in 2019

Paediatric

- **GSK:** Havrix Paediatric PFS singles and packs of 10 are available
- **MSD:** VAQTA Paediatric is currently available

HEPATITIS B VACCINE

Adult

- **GSK:** Supplies of Engerix B PFS singles and packs of 10 are available
- **GSK:** Supplies of Engerix B vials singles and packs of 10 are available
- **GSK:** Fendrix is available
- **MSD:** Some limited stocks of HBVAXPRO 10µg are currently available at the wholesaler AAH but MSD is now out of stock. Replenishment is not expected until 2020
- **MSD:** Limited supplies of HBVAXPRO 40µg are available

Paediatric

- **GSK:** Engerix B Paediatric singles are available
- **MSD:** HBVAXPRO 5µg are available

COMBINED HEPATITIS A & B VACCINE

- **GSK:** Twinrix Adult and Paediatric presentations are available
- **GSK:** Ambirix is available

COMBINED HEPATITIS A & TYPHOID VACCINE

- **Sanofi Pasteur:** Viatim is available to order without any restrictions

TYPHOID VACCINE

- **Sanofi Pasteur:** Typhim is available to order without restrictions
- **PaxVax:** Vivotif is available

RABIES VACCINE

- **GSK:** Rabipur is available
- **Sanofi Pasteur:** Rabies BP is currently out of stock. Please call Customer Services for more information

PPV (PNEUMOCOCCAL POLYSACCHARIDE VACCINE)

- **MSD:** limited supply of PPV is currently available with next replenishment due in December 2018

PNEUMOCOCCAL POLYSACCHARIDE CONJUGATE VACCINE

- **Pfizer:** Prevenar 13 is in stock and available for the private market

VARICELLA ZOSTER VACCINE

- **GSK:** Varilrix is currently available
- **MSD:** VARIVAX is currently available
- **MSD:** ZOSTAVAX stocks are currently available for the private market

DIPHTHERIA, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS (INACTIVATED) VACCINE

- **Sanofi Pasteur:** Revaxis is available to order without restrictions

MMR

- **MSD:** Limited stocks of MMRvaxPro are currently available for the private market

MENINGITIS ACWY VACCINE

- **GSK:** Menveo is currently unavailable until late 2019
- **Pfizer:** Nimenrix is currently available for private sales

YELLOW FEVER

- **Sanofi Pasteur:** Stamaril is available to order without restrictions

HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS VACCINE

- **MSD:** Stocks of GARDASIL are available for private market sales
- **MSD:** Limited supplies of Gardasil 9 are available

Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPV)

MSD is introducing a limited quantity of a prefilled syringe presentation (PFS) of PPV under the brand name PNEUMOVAX® 23 to supplement the current supply of vials from December 2018. A combination of growing global demand for pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccines, alongside manufacturing constraints, have led to regular interruptions in supply of PPV to the UK since 2017. The introduction of a PFS presentation of PPV is intended to support the continuity of supply and to help address public health need.

Pneumovax® 23 in the PFS presentation can be ordered in the same way as the PPV in vials; through MSD's distribution partner AAH online at [weblink 5](#) or by phone on 0344 561 8899. Customers need an AAH account to place an order.

For more information about the vaccine, please refer to the Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC).

Weblinks

- Weblink 1 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/meningococcal-vaccination-statement-from-jcvi>
- Weblink 2 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tetanus-advice-for-health-professionals>
- Weblink 3 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tetanus-the-green-book-chapter-30>
- Weblink 4 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccines-and-porcine-gelatine>
- Weblink 5 <http://www.aah.co.uk>
- Weblink 6 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/meningitis-signs-and-symptoms-leaflet-for-university-students>
- Weblink 7 <https://onlinestore.ucl.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/faculty-of-population-health-sciences-c09/ucl-great-ormond-street-institute-of-child-health-d13/d13-fundamentals-of-immunisation-2019>
- Weblink 8 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vaccine-update-issue-286-september-2018>