

5th October 2021

Dear Colleagues,

This is to update you on the coding and import process for Flu and Covid vaccinations, as a follow-up to our initial communication dated 15.9.21.

1 Changes to Imported Flu coding

It has been necessary to make some changes to the codes you will see for Influenza vaccinations on importing into your GPIT system. These follow some issues identified during the import process, particularly for Vision practices.

The codes that are now being used for this import are -

65ED4	Administration of first inactivated seasonal flu vaccination
65ED5	Administration of second inactivated seasonal flu vaccination
65ED1	Administration of first intranasal seasonal flu vaccination
65ED3	Administration of second intranasal seasonal flu vaccination

These codes will have the product, batch number and type of vaccinations details added. Similar to the Covid vaccination imports, these codes will have a flag to identify if they have been given 'in practice' or 'out of practice'. For EMIS practices this appears as <GMS> label for those identified as given by the practice.

2 Covid Booster doses

You will have noticed, now that booster doses are being administered, that these are appearing within the import tool for downloading into your systems. We have followed the guidance from the UK Terminology service that this should be coded as a first dose vaccination with the information relating to batch number, method and site of administration, attached to this code. You will notice that the word 'booster' is attached as freetext to this code to help identify this within the patients record.

This is moving towards a similar system that we utilise for the annual flu vaccinations, coding these as first or second doses each year. It is appreciated that there is currently no defined start date for these booster doses against which it would be possible to run recalls. To aid with this a code to indicate that it is part of a maintenance course (booster) with the same date, will also be imported through the ESCRO tool. To expediate the information going into GP practices, currently only the 'First vaccination code' has been made available for import. Work is advancing rapidly to import the 'Maintenance dose code' and there will be a catch up for the records already imported.

For information, the code that you will see in the records is-

Term	EMIS	VISION
Immunisation course to maintain protection against SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2)	^ESCT1423363	65F08

For Vision practices - this will be recorded within Clinical History with the same date as the new 1st vaccination code. It is not possible to enter it into the Immunisation data area with the associated information attached. If a practice is needing to run recalls for booster doses, it may be simplest to set this against the maintenance dose code, ensuring that the search includes looking in Clinical History and not only the Immunisation SDA.

2.1 Exception coding

New codes are now available within your systems for coding exceptions to the booster doses

Term	EMIS	VISION
SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2) protection maintenance course not indicated	^ESCT1423381	8I6t3
SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2) protection maintenance course contraindicated	^ESCT1423372	8I23V
SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2) protection maintenance course declined	^ESCT1423375	8IAI7

3 COVID-19 – Third dose

You will be aware that people who are severely immunosuppressed as defined by the JCVI¹, are now receiving a third dose as part of their initial course of Covid vaccinations. In September the UK Terminology service had an emergency release of a Snomed-CT code for this (in addition to codes for potential 4th and 5th doses). Cegidem (Vision) and EMIS are both in the process of creating and releasing local codes to map to this new Snomed-CT concept. These new codes will require incorporation in system updates, and, for Cegidem, a subsequent patch to enable these codes to be recorded into the Immunisation data area. We are expecting these to become available by mid October. Without the presence of these codes, third vaccinations can't be recorded accurately, or imported into your GPIT systems. Whilst awaiting these codes, Albasoft will be storing the third dose records, and you will see them appear in the import tool as soon as this is possible, including all the backlog. For information the new codes will be -

Term	EMIS	VISION
Administration of third dose of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 vaccine	^ESCT1428354	65F09

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/third-primary-covid-19-vaccine-dose-for-people-who-are-immunosuppressed-jcvi-advice/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-jcvi-advice-on-third-primary-dose-vaccination>

3.1 Exception coding

In the emergency Snomed-CT code release for third dose, they included two additional terms for exclusion -

- Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 vaccination third dose not given
- Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 vaccination third dose declined

As for the third dose code, local codes by Cegidem and EMIS require release before this this can be coded within your systems.

As a reminder, below are the codes already available for exception coding within your systems.

Term	EMIS	VISION
Adverse reaction SARS-CoV-2 vaccine	^ESCT1348319	TJK62
Allergy to SARS-CoV-2 vaccine	^ESCT1348327	14L51
DNA 2019-nCoV (novel coronavirus) vaccination	^ESCT1299083	9Niq .
DNA SARS-CoV-2 vaccine first dose	^ESCT1348349	9Niq1
DNA SARS-CoV-2 vaccine second dose	^ESCT1348351	9Niq2
SARS-CoV-2 immunisation course declined	^ESCT1348345	8IAI1
SARS-CoV-2 vac first dose declined	^ESCT1348329	8IAI2
SARS-CoV-2 vac second dose declined	^ESCT1348335	8IAI3
2019-nCoV (novel coronavirus) vaccination contraindicated	^ESCT1299089	8I23R

4 COVID-19 Vaccines administered in other UK countries or outside the UK

Work is on-going to enable the importing of this information into GPIT systems, with the country of vaccine administration identified against the code. We will provide further updates when available.

The policies for Covid vaccination have changed rapidly over the last month, and the team involved in the data management around these vaccinations appreciate your patience and tolerance whilst we work towards ensuring that accurate data records are imported into your GPIT systems.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Lefevre

General Practitioner

Clinical Terminologist advising on

Vaccination Data Management

Ian Thompson

General Practitioner

GP Clinical Lead Digital Health and

Care Directorate, Scottish Government