

09/10/20

QIVc Supply

Dear All,

To ensure fair distribution of available flu vaccines across and within Health Board areas, each site in Scotland has been set a seasonal allocation of flu vaccines for both the over-65 and 18-64 at-risk cohorts for the 2020/21 flu season. These allocations have been set based on 2019/20 flu vaccine uptake extracts from software providers as well as practice claim data from PSD. This includes all individuals over 65, all under 65 at risk including healthy pregnant women and carers. An inflation of 10% was added to each allocation to accommodate any increased demand. Where health boards have changed their local distribution models additional allocations were also made available for new sites.

QIVc for 18-64 at-risk

A number of sites have already reached their seasonal allocation and have requested further supplies. All available stock of QIVc for the 18-64 at-risk cohort has been allocated as detailed above; this means that it is currently not possible to fulfil any requests for QIVc over and above seasonal allocations. There remains a small emergency buffer stock of QIVc which will be used to replace vaccines lost in the event of e.g. fridge failures.

A further supply of flu vaccines, QIVe, is expected in November however until this arrives we would be grateful if you could prioritise according to clinical need and allocate your appointments according to stock you have available unless a nearby surgery is able to offer you some of their supply. If required, you should be able to reschedule some of your patients once further stock becomes available. You should reassure patients that the timing of the flu season varies each year but usually commences later in December or in the New Year, followed by two to three months of flu transmission. Although it takes around two weeks to make a response to the flu, immunisation before end of December should provide protection although the aim is to immunise as early as possible. Demand for vaccine has been earlier this season but it is unclear whether overall uptake has markedly increased. As soon as there is a confirmed timeline for availability of the November stock this will be communicated.

aTIV for over-65s

Where sites require stock in addition to their seasonal allocations these orders will be fulfilled

NHSGGC Public Health Protection Unit