



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 26

22nd January 2021

To All GPs and GP Practices

We hope you and your teams are all well.

Many practices have received doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine and have started immunising the over 80s cohort. By Friday 22nd January, all practices in GGC should have received their first delivery. The feedback from patients and practices have been extremely positive, and we thank practices for their speedy organisation of the vaccine clinics.

The last 2 weeks have seen a flurry of activity and guidance around the Covid Vaccination programme. This communication will focus on the Covid Vaccination programme and give you the current information around the DES and vaccine delivery.

Covid Vaccination- Over 75s & Shielding group

The Board has written to all practices asking if they wish to opt in to immunise the Over 75s and the Shielding group. We hope that you have responded already but if not, please let Primary Care Support know about your practice's intentions using the [opt in form](#).

The Committee supported the extension of practice cohort for the Covid-19 vaccination DES to include the option of those aged over 75, or to those over aged over 75 and the Shielding group.

The Committee is aware that not all practices will be able to opt into to this extension of the DES cohort. Practices should not be pressured to take on the further patient cohorts. We have said that patients registered to those practices who are unable to take on these cohorts need to be immunised by the Board/HSCP service in line with the timescales set out in the Scottish Government vaccine delivery plan.

We are clear that the delivery and communication of vaccine supply to practices who are delivering the DES needs to be timely and clear so that practices are able to plan their clinics effectively. We want to see practice ordering of the Covid vaccine as a priority.

Where practices, that have opted-in to immunise the further cohorts, find themselves in a situation where delivery is difficult e.g. due to staffing issues, we have sought assurance from the Board that there should be assistance to help out, or that patients will be immunised elsewhere.

Covid Vaccination FAQs

Allocation Timeline

The initial practice allocation was divided into 3 weekly shipments starting w/c 4th January. The third tranche of this initial delivery will be completed at the end of this week.

The next shipments will be allocated centrally by the Board and practice will receive email confirmation from Movianto about their next delivery- Shipment 4 (w/c 25th Jan) or Shipment 5 (w/c 1st Feb). This second delivery will allow all practices to complete their over 80s cohort.

Moving Vaccines

Where practices have additional vaccines after completing their over 80s group, the Board and HSCP will coordinate any movement of vaccine between practices required so that all practices have enough to immunise their over 80s.

Further guidance to follow. It is important to note, if vaccine is taken out of the fridge it can be moved anywhere so long as it is used within 6 hours. If a box/part box is to be moved, practices need to contact the HSCP for support with Helapet (cool bag). This may affect split sites. The HSCPs are looking at a central process for identifying unused vials held in practices and transporting it safely to under resourced practices.

Housebound Patients

Housebound patients will be immunised by the HSCP. Practices with additional vaccines may be contacted by the HSCP coordinator to shift vaccines to the community team increasing the supply for this group.

Coding of vaccination

Practices are not required to use the TURAS vaccine management tool for their own patients. Templates are available on EMIS and Vision to enable coding. It is important that coding is consistent across all practices because data is extracted that will populate national systems. The free-text information should always be in this format- for example “**AB0001/AZ/TM**”

Reducing Vaccine Wastage

[The Board has issued guidance](#) for practices about minimising wastage of Covid-19 vaccine. Experience so far is that many vaccine vials may yield an additional full dose that can be used. The guidance gives practices information around the individuals who should be called up for these spare doses.

Vaccine Syringes/needles

National procurement have confirmed that practices can request an extra box if needed. The fixed syringe/needle come in boxes of 200 so they were to match as closely as possible without issuing too many. If a practice needs extra, they request that from-

nss.fluvaccineenquiries@nhs.scot

Please only use this email for the fixed syringe/needles.

Claims for Covid vaccination

The [Claim form for the DES](#) has been published on the [NSS Vaccinations page](#).

However, we are still working with the Board to finalise the claims arrangements for GP practices and further information around the claims and payments process will be sent to practices in due course.

Blue Lid Sharps Containers

Tradebe the clinical waste contractor has confirmed that practices' orange lid sharps bins will be treated as blue lid containers to meet the regulatory requirements for the Covid vaccine.

There is a national shortage of blue lid containers currently and therefore practices may not receive a blue lid container in the meantime.

Healthcare Assistants / Healthcare Support Workers

A number of practices have contacted us regarding the use of HCAs/HCSWs in administering the vaccine. This is guidance from the BMA below on the issue.

[BMA guidance on extra workforce for the vaccination programme.](#)

Practices should not just approach this as they have done for flu. Using a Patient Specific Direction, GPs would have to be able to evidence the training and competencies of their non-registered staff member in delivering this particular vaccine, and show how they have assured themselves that the patient has given informed consent.

The LMC is actively working on further clarity on this issue.

Indemnity

Where GPs and staff are providing additional clinical time to vaccinate, it is important that you confirm with your Medical Defence Organisation that sessional cover is adequate.

We have also clarified with SGPC that [The Coronavirus Act 2020](#) provide people with indemnity for providing NHS services related to the coronavirus outbreak i.e. diagnosis, care and treatment, **where they are not already covered by an existing indemnity arrangement.**

Staff Vaccinations

We would encourage anyone is yet to get their first vaccination to book an appointment before 1st February. There are likely to be fewer slots available after that date as staff move to do the mass vaccinations.

Covid-19 Advice Deck

A reminder about the Guidance developed by the Covid-19 Primary Care Clinical Advisory Group

- [GP Advice Cover Note](#)
- [Advice 1. Covid-19 Triage Pathway](#)
- [Advice 2. Cleaning Advice](#)
- [Advice 3. Respiratory Appointment](#)
- [Advice 4. Home Visit](#)
- [Advice 5. Child Triage](#)
- [Advice 6. Clinical Distancing](#)

The Pathway for Non Covid Presentations in patients who are a Covid Infection Risk (Updated- Please note that the self-isolation period is now **10 days**)

- [Covid-19 Asymptomatic Non Covid Presentations](#)

With warm regards and all best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Alan McDevitt C.B.E.
Chair

Dr John Ip
Medical Director

Dr Patricia Moultrie
Medical Director

Marco Florence
Business Coordinator

LMC Document Highlight List

Please be aware that this is NOT a comprehensive list of all the available guidance that has been sent to GPs. These are the current key documents which we feel are important to GP practices. Please make sure that your practice's generic NHS.SCOT box is monitored daily.

From Week Beginning 11th January 2021

Covid-19 Vaccinations

Scottish Government letter- AstraZeneca Vaccine vials additional doses

- [2021-01-08 - COVID-19 - CPO letter - AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine Doses per Vial](#)

Vaccination Data Recording

- [Covering letter Vaccination recording](#)
- [D3.3 GP Communication](#)
- [EMIS PCS COVID-19 Vaccination Template Guidance](#)
- [Synonym for Covid Template](#)

GP Practice Update 14th January

- [Update for GP practices on Covid Vaccination – over 80s](#)
- [Movianto](#)
- [guidance on waste](#)
- [Pregnancy Breastfeeding Covid Vaccination](#)

Shielding Update and Escro Search

- [Additions to the shielding list - current process 20210108](#)
- [New Additions - 8 Jan 2021](#)
- [20200111 pc shielding v0.1 jodowd](#)

GP Practice Workload and Activity Survey

- [GP Practice Workload and Activity](#)
- [20210111-Guidance](#)
- [17122020 Survey](#)

GP Appraisal Update

- [Guidance on supporting Information for appraisal and revalidation](#)

From Week Beginning 18th January 2021

Covid-19 Vaccination: Standard Operating Procedure and other guidance

- [NHSGGC COVID-19 VACCINATION SOP OVER80S V0.2](#)
- [Anaphylaxis guidance for Immunising Staff 150121](#)
- [Covid Vaccination with SACT FAQs](#)
- [CV-19 Vaccination](#)
- [Guidance for vaccination of housebound patients using COVID-19 AZ vaccin..](#)
- [pre vaccination screening AZ](#)

NHS GGC Directed Enhanced Service

- [COVID19 Vaccination 75-80 and Shielding Opt-in Letter 190120](#)
- [COVID19 Vaccination 75-80 and Shielding Opt-in Form](#)

Scottish Government and CMO

- [COVID Vaccine 13 January 2020](#)
- [CMO Letter - Oxford AZ and Update on Pfizer December 2020 v.3](#)
- [PCA\(M\)\(2020\)17 - COVID-19 Immunisation Programme](#)

Flu vaccine Letter

- [Flu Vaccines in Primary Care](#)

Right Care Right Place National Public Messaging Campaign

- [Right Care Right Place National Door Drop Letter](#)
- [20-21 - Right Care Right Place - Door Drop - Artwork - 00660443 SGV Right Care Door Drop Booklet A5 12pp-APPROVED](#)
- [20-21 - Right Care Right Place - Door Drop - Artwork - Ready Reckoner A4 - Printers Proof APPROVED - 5 November 2020](#)
- [20-21 - Right Care Right Place - Door Drop - Artwork - 00660443 SGV Right Care LETTER no pic - Page 1 only](#)

Public Health Scotland Alert

- [202103 - HPS Briefing Note - VOC Brazil and other linked countries](#)