



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

11 August 2021

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you with an update on the approach to Primary Care supporting Covid-19 vaccination here in Wales.

The Primary Care Covid-19 Immunisation Schemes (PCCIS) for the Oxford/Astra Zeneca, Moderna and Pfizer vaccines have been in place for some time now, with the first introduced on 18 December 2020 and most recently the PCCIS Pfizer on 29 July 2021. Throughout the last nine months, we have seen Primary Care providers across Wales play a pivotal role in this world leading vaccination programme; supporting the aim of vaccinating as many people as possible as quickly as possible, safely and minimising waste.

Planning and delivery models have continued to evolve as more data and guidance becomes available with regard to vaccine characteristics and people most at risk from contracting Covid-19.

Health Boards and primary care contractors have continued to respond swiftly and with agility, ensuring the pace and success of the programme has continued.

Delivery of boosters and subsequent doses

Building on the positive engagement and learning to date, discussions have taken place regarding the delivery of booster doses during the autumn and looking ahead to subsequent doses which may be needed. Today, I am issuing the Legislative Directions, on behalf of the Minister for Health and Social Services, which establish a new Primary Care Contracted Service: Immunisation (PCCS:I) scheme for the delivery of Covid-19 vaccines.

The PCCS:I Directions will come into force on 18 August 2021. Health Boards will then use this national contracting mechanism, which broadly mirrors the arrangements already in place under the PCCIS Schemes, where they intend to engage primary care contractors in the delivery of Covid-19 vaccines. All three PCCIS Directions currently in force will be revoked and arrangements made under those Schemes will cease on that same date. Any unpaid claims for vaccines administered prior to the 18 August 2021 under those arrangements will still be paid in accordance with the relevant PCCIS Directions and Specification however.

As was the case previously under PCCIS arrangements, the PCCS:I enables all primary care providers to be engaged for delivery, subject to Health Boards planning and needs which will continue to be locally determined.

It is also useful to point out some key changes, which take into account learning and programme developments to date, which have been incorporated into the new PCCS:I mechanism:

- Prior to the provision of any services under the PCCS:I scheme, engaged providers are required to submit and agree a plan with their Health Board that sets out how engagement in Covid-19 vaccine delivery will be managed against access to core services. This will provide a greater level of assurance that the latter is not impeded and that providers are not at greater risk of being overburdened.
- The use of WIS Core for the scheduling of appointments is mandated in order to support a new online booking system that will be available in due course.
- Revised fridge temperature monitoring and reporting through WIS will ensure vaccines are stored securely and safely, enabling a faster response where issues may arise.
- The latest JCVI guidance on the vaccination of children and eligible cohorts for receipt of a booster dose is included within the Appendices to the Specification. .

Continuing with our aim to ensure parity and to appropriately recompense providers, we have agreed a payment of £12.58 per vaccine administered and a further administration feed of £400 per 1,000 vaccinations delivered.

I trust this latest information will be a welcomed development in terms of how Primary Care is supporting this national programme moving forwards, and I would like to again thank you all for the positive engagement and contribution seen to date.

Your ongoing support in delivering the vaccine to the people of Wales in a safe and timely manner is significant and one that continues to be welcomed by all parts of the system.

Yours sincerely,



Alex Slade

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