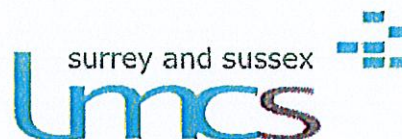


To all practices Surrey and Sussex LMCs



10th March 2021

Dear Colleagues

### **GP Practices Vaccinations and Immunisations Payment Process**

The GP Contract Agreement 2020/21 included the reform of the current payment arrangements for vaccination and immunisations within General Practice. This was based on a review of arrangements that had been in place since 1990, the first substantive revision of the GP Contract since 1966.

The contractual changes were: -

- Vaccination and Immunisation becomes part of the GMS/PMS Contract Essential Service, rather than an Additional Service.
- As part of this change, practices are expected to: -
  - Have a named lead for vaccination services, who would: -
  - Ensure the practice liaises with others, including PHE Screening and Immunisation Leads, Child Health Information Systems [CHIS], NHS England Public Health Teams, and PCNs
  - Ensure availability of appropriately trained staff and convenient and timely appointments, including Extended Hours appointment times, and the opportunity to book immunisation appointments on-line.
  - Ensure call/recall and opportunistic offers are made in line with national standards; these are not yet defined but may include text messaging, for example.
  - Ensure practices participate in agreed national catch-up campaigns.
  - Adhere to defined standards for record keeping and data reporting for all immunisations

This Contract Agreement was published in February 2020 and very soon afterwards General Practice, along with the rest of the NHS, began to cope with the huge challenges of the Covid19 pandemic, and, more recently, and additionally, the Covid19 Vaccination Programme.

However, this aspect of the Contract Agreement has not been deferred and the payment arrangements are to be fully implemented for 2021/22.

Local Medical Committees for  
Croydon, Kingston & Richmond, Surrey,  
East Sussex and West Sussex

The White House T: 01372 389270  
18 Church Road F: 01372 389271  
Leatherhead  
Surrey KT22 8BB [www.sslmcs.co.uk](http://www.sslmcs.co.uk)



## Payment Arrangements

There are now several income streams for practices, relating to different areas of the contract.

### Item of Service fees

These will be paid at £10.06 per immunisation, fixed until 2023/24, and will apply from 2021/22 to:

- MMR [from 2020/21]
- Diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis, pertussis, haemophilus influenza Type B [HiB] and hepatitis B [6-in-1]
- Rotavirus
- Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine [PCV]
- Meningococcal B Infant
- Haemophilus influenza Type B and Meningitis C [HiB/MenC]
- Routine vaccinations given outside the routine schedule when clinically indicated.

### QOF Vaccination and Immunisation Domains

This has now been agreed, as below, applying from 2021/22

#### Annex A – new QOF indicators for 2021/22

**Table 1 - New vaccination and immunisation domain**

Indicator ID	Indicator wording	Points	Payment thresholds	Points at lower threshold
NM197 (adapted)	The percentage of babies who reached 8 months old in the preceding 12 months, who have received at least 3 doses of a diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis containing vaccine before the age of 8 months.	18	90-95%	3
NM198	The percentage of children who reached 18 months old in the preceding 12 months, who have received at least 1 dose of MMR between the ages of 12 and 18 months	18	90-95%	7
NM199	The percentage of children who reached 5 years old in the preceding 12 months, who have received a reinforcing dose of DTaP/IPV and at least 2 doses of MMR between the ages of 1 and 5 years.	18	87-95%	7
NM201	The percentage of patients who reached 80 years old in the preceding 12 months, who have received a shingles vaccine between the ages of 70 and 79 years.	10	50-60%	0

This represents a new vaccination and immunisation domain in QOF, supplementing and in addition to the IoS payment arrangements.

## **QOF Flu Domains**

The four QOF flu indicators have not been changed but for 2020/21 their value has doubled [to 58 points] and their incremental payment thresholds skewed to enhanced payments at lower achievements. This was a temporary measure to reflect priorities during the Covid19 pandemic and for QOF 2021/22 the points and payment incentives in this domain will revert to usual.

## **Investment and Impact Fund [IIF]**

This includes a 65 and over incentive payment; the exact indicators and payment thresholds for the 2021/22 IIF have not yet been confirmed but will include seasonal flu incentives.

## **Payment Thresholds for scheduled childhood vaccinations**

In order to balance the principle that each childhood vaccination given has value via the IoS fee, with the need to incentivise higher achievement targets, a proportion of the IoS payments made to practices achieving less than 80% coverage will be recouped.

The payment structure will be: -

- For <50% no IoS fees – the practice will receive IoS during the year, but if less than 50% are vaccinated, then all IoS fees will be recouped.
- For 50-79% practices retain 50% of all IoS - adjusted at the year end.
- For >80% - 100% of all IoS fees for all vaccinations given will be retained by the practice.

The payment arrangements will be designed to represent a QOF style part aspiration, part achievement arrangement, to minimise the risk of any clawback for individual practices.

## **'Exception' Reporting**

Exception reporting in QOF is now known as the personalised care adjustment [PCA] and covers: -

- Unsuitability for the patient, for example, because of intolerance or allergy, or if contra-indicated for other reasons, such as concurrent medication.
- Patient choice, following a decision-making conversation.
- The patient did not respond to offers of care, with recording of these offers/invitations.

The two other recognised PCAs, that the specific service is not available locally, and newly diagnosed or new patients, as under current QOF rules are not applicable to the immunisation schedules.

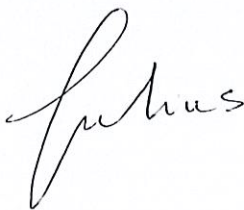


In relation to the payment arrangements listed: -

- 50%/80% IoS Payment Thresholds, no PCA allowed.
- QOF Vaccination and Immunisation domain, no PCA allowed.
- If vaccine supply issues affect achievement, mitigation is possible but has not yet been agreed with NHSE as a principle.
- IIF flu vaccination achievement, PCA was not allowable this year [2020/21] and no arrangements have been agreed for 2021/22

I hope this summary of payment arrangements is helpful, please contact Sarah [ [Sarah.parsons@sslmcs.co.uk](mailto:Sarah.parsons@sslmcs.co.uk) ] or the LMC Office with any queries

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julius Parker', written in a cursive style.

Dr Julius Parker  
**Chief Executive**