To: All Practices in Surrey and Sussex LMCs 18th January 2018

Dear Colleagues

**Influenza Vaccination for the 2018/19 Flu Season**

I am writing to all colleagues to summarise the current advice being provided to practices regarding the 2018/19 flu season. This letter is based on NHS England guidance, which practices are advised to take into account.

Unfortunately, much of the advice sent to practices is arising after they have ordered their flu vaccine for 2018/19 and although in some cases it may be feasible to adjust this order, this may not be possible, and NHS England acknowledge this.

The following is a summary of advice from NHS England:

* Adjuvanted Trivalent Inactivated flu vaccine is available for use in the 2018/19. Only one product, FLUAD, is currently available;
* The JCVI (Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation) have concluded that Adjuvanted Trivalent Inactivated flu vaccine is;
	+ - More effective (and cost effective) in those aged over 65
		- The use of this vaccine should be a priority for those aged 75 years and over;
		- The benefit of using a quadrivalent vaccine compared with trivalent vaccine is more substantial in ‘at risk’ adults under 65 years of age, including pregnant women;
		- Practices may need to order more than one type of vaccine if this would best meet the needs of their practice population.

The LMC would therefore recommend:

* Practices do seek to adjust their orders to obtain some supplies of FLUAD. How much should be ordered is a practice decision and individual practices will vary, but an historic under 65/over 65 average uptake level should give an estimate;
* Practices will need to plan their 2018/19 flu immunisation programme carefully if, as can be expected, many will need to give more than one type of vaccine, depending on patient age;
* The JCVI advice in terms of the evidence and prioritisation, should be accepted as professionally expert opinion;
* The NHS will reimburse vaccines, but cannot reimburse any costs associated with cancelled orders;
* If practices cannot change all, or part of their order, they should keep documentary evidence of this.

Clearly this advice has been made available during practices vaccine ordering season and this may mean practices cannot change a part or all their orders they have already made.

I am very grateful to the Surrey Medicines Commissioners Group who kindly passed the included Fluad-ordering details advice which I have included as Appendix A in my letter.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely



**Dr Julius Parker**

Chief Executive

**APPENDIX A**

**Adjuvanted trivalent vaccine (Fluad®) Ordering Details**

**Contact Seqirus to order**

Tel: 01530 454288 (Opening hours Monday-Friday 8:30AM – 5PM)

Email: seqirusorders@ashfieldhealthcare.com

**FLUAD (Adjuvanted Trivalent)**

This vaccine is only licensed for use in patients over 65 and is the only adjuvanted inactivated surface antigen trivalent seasonal flu to be made available in the UK.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Orders before 31st January 2018 (40.3%)** | **Orders after 31st January 2018 (38.8%)** |
| **NHS List Price (per dose)** | £9.79 | £9.79 |
| **Dispensing fee\* (per dose)** | £2.209 | £2.209 |
| **VAT (20%)** | £1.96 | £1.96 |
| **Total NHS Reimbursement** | £13.96 | £13.96 |
| **Sale Price (per dose)** | £5.84 | £5.99 |
| **VAT (20%)** | £1.17 | £1.20 |
| **Total cost to practice (per dose)** | £7.01 | £7.19 |
| **Total Profit per Dose (PPD)** | £6.95 | £6.77 |

\*The dispensing fee illustrated is for guidance purposes only and is based on a non-dispensing practice dispensing up to 457 items a month under rules applying from 1 October 2017 (see separate table).

+Discount based on order of less than 1000 doses. Additional discounts are available to those practices wanting to order more than 1000 doses.

**Seqirus’ offer also includes:**

       20% sale or return on contract order volume on orders placed before 31st January 2018 and 10% thereafter. Any sale or return vaccine must be notified to Seqirus by 28 February 2019 to be eligible for credit.

       150 days’ credit for FLUAD® orders of 1,000+ doses. Otherwise 120 days’ credit from each invoice date for orders placed before 31st January 2018 and 90 days thereafter.

       100 doses minimum delivery volume.

       Named day cold chain delivery.

       Practice Promotional materials (including materials to distinguish between two vaccines).

       Orders can be amended or cancelled up to 28 February 2018, no fee.

       Deliveries are forecasted to begin w/c 10 September 2018 allocated whilst stock lasts. If stock is released earlier than the above date, then it will be offered to accounts in priority of date the order was placed.