

NHS Flu Season 2020/21 – Postcard 11

Extension of NHS flu vaccination programme to include 50 to 64 year olds from 1st December 2020

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has announced the [extension of the NHS flu programme to include 50 to 64 year olds](#) from 1st December. You should begin taking names or booking appointments now, so you know how much stock to order in preparation for the 1st December.

Vaccination of all other priority groups should continue alongside the 50 to 64 year group.

The upcoming COVID-19 vaccination programme which is expected to start in December may result in more patients wanting to have their flu vaccination at a community pharmacy. Current guidance is that patients will need to have had their flu vac at least 7 days before having their COVID vac. This should not affect vaccinating the 50 to 64 year olds group as COVID vacs will be starting with those over 80 years old, or in a Care Home and Care Home staff.

DHSC will also be updating its guidance to community pharmacy on accessing the central supply of flu vaccines which includes an update on the availability of supplies.

From 1st December 2020, contractors can use the DHSC flu vaccine stock for the following:

- **Group A** – Patients and frontline social care workers as set out in Appendix A of the Service Specification and frontline health and social care workers through locally agreed occupational health schemes (including Hampshire County Council and Portsmouth City Council employee flu services).
- **Group B** – 50 to 64 year olds, under the updated NHS Advanced service.

Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council (inc. Gosport Borough Council) Employee Flu Locally Commissioned Service

Both services are now live on PharmOutcomes and are [open for pharmacies in all areas to deliver](#). There are separate modules on PharmOutcomes for both services.



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