



Scottish Vaccine Update

Health Protection Scotland

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Shingles vaccine expiry date and pack change

The shingles vaccine Zostavax[®] is now available for eligible patients in the fourth year of the programme which started on 1 September 2016. See issue 51 of Scottish Vaccine Update (available [here](#)) for details of the programme this year. Please note that the Zostavax[®] currently available to NHS board vaccine holding centres has a relatively short expiry of December 2016 or January 2017.

GP practices and vaccine holding centres must liaise closely to ensure sufficient vaccine availability prior to the scheduling of immunisation appointments but should not over order and only order enough to meet immediate demand. Please ensure that stock with the shortest expiry date is used first to preserve this expensive vaccine. This may not always be the most recently delivered.

Earlier in 2016 the Zostavax[®] pack changed slightly and the new cartons, which NHS board vaccine holding centres will start to receive during October, now show the text 'subcutaneous or intramuscular use' on the front, which is aligned to the current SPC.

Pre-School Booster

The pre-school booster vaccine given to infants from three years four months old will switch from Infanrix[®]IPV to Repevax[®] later in 2016. It is anticipated that NHS boards will begin to order Repevax[®] alongside Infanrix[®]IPV in October 2016, with ordering for Infanrix[®]IPV closing several weeks after this. Whilst stocks of Infanrix[®]IPV remain available these should be used first. Both Repevax[®] and Infanrix[®]IPV are suitable for the pre-school booster vaccination, regardless of the vaccine used for primary vaccination.

As a reminder, Repevax[®] is supplied as a pre-filled syringe without needles and manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur MSD.

Repevax[®] is not for use in the maternal pertussis programme, for which Boostrix[®] IPV continues to be available.

InterVax BCG vaccine availability

The BCG vaccine supplied by InterVax Ltd, Canada and manufactured by BB-NCIPD Ltd, Bulgaria, remains available from NHS board vaccine holding centres to order in line with the advice outlined in the BCG Vaccine Update special edition (available [here](#)).

More information on the use of the InterVax BCG vaccine which has a different presentation to the Statens Serum Institute (SSI) BCG vaccine is available [here](#).



Use of SSI BCG vaccine batch 114022A

In January 2016 PHE recommended that SSI BCG vaccine batch 114022A with a labelled expiry of 29 February 2016, could continue to be used up to 31 August 2016 (more information available [here](#)). This was based on the known stability of the SSI BCG vaccine and on a review undertaken by the MHRA of information provided by the manufacturer.

Any remaining stock of SSI BCG vaccine must now be disposed of in line with local policies.

Flu vaccine effectiveness in Scottish primary school age children from the 2015/16 season

The 2015-16 provisional end-of-season estimates of influenza vaccine effectiveness (VE) in children presenting to hospital in Scotland was published on the HPS website recently [here](#). This analysis presents linked data that uses the Community Health Index (CHI) number - a unique identifier that is available in Scotland for all children – to link Child Health Immunisation Programme (CHSP) data from all school age children for the 2015/16 season with NHS Scotland Hospitalisation data (SMR) covering the whole population or national laboratory testing data with influenza positive and negative results from all Scottish laboratories (ECOSS). **The estimated influenza VE in children age 4-11 years reveals significant protection against both clinically diagnosed influenza (68%) and lab confirmed influenza (63%).** These findings are consistent with recent estimates of influenza VE in a general practice population in the UK¹ and in Finnish 2 year old children.² Final estimates will be published later in autumn 2016.

References

1. Effectiveness of seasonal influenza vaccine for adults and children in preventing laboratory-confirmed influenza in primary care in the United Kingdom: 2015/16 end-of-season results <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=22592>.
2. Effectiveness of the live attenuated and the inactivated influenza vaccine in two-year-olds – a nationwide cohort study Finland, influenza season 2015/16 <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=22589>.

Green Book Updates

The Green Book is available [here](#). Chapter 7 (immunisation of individuals with underlying medical conditions), Chapter 11 (UK Immunisation schedule) and 22 (Meningococcal disease) of the Green book have been updated.

Chapter 7 – the updated version includes clarification on immunisation of individuals with an absent or dysfunctional spleen and the addition of morbid obesity as a risk group. It also includes changes to reflect the routine immunisation schedule. The updated chapter is available [here](#).

Chapter 11 – This chapter has been updated to reflect changes to the routine immunisation schedule, including removal of the infant dose of MenC. The updated chapter is available [here](#).

Chapter 22 – Table 22.3 on recommendations for the use of quadrivalent meningococcal ACWY vaccines for travel has been corrected. The updated chapter is available [here](#).

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