

Scottish Vaccine Update

Health Protection Scotland

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Important change of vaccine for routine primary baby immunisation programme

There is good news that later this year Infanrix hexa[®] (DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB) will replace both Pediacel[®] and Infanrix-IPV+Hib[®] (DTaP/IPV+Hib) for primary baby immunisations.

This change means that as well as providing protection against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio and Hib, babies will also be given protection against hepatitis B virus.

The planned change only involves the type of vaccine used. There is no change to the immunisation schedule and the current planning assumption is that babies born on or after 1 August will be offered Infanrix hexa[®] (DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB) from late September/early October 2017, at the ages of 8, 12 and 16 weeks as part of the routine childhood immunisation schedule.

The exact dates will depend on the remaining availability of pentavalent vaccine.

More information will be included in future issues of Scottish Vaccine Update.

InterVax BCG vaccine and leaflets

As a reminder, the manufacturer's information leaflet that comes packaged within each box of InterVax BCG vaccine should be discarded and the Public Health England (PHE) leaflets for patients and professionals supplied with each delivery should be referred to instead. It is important that the additional leaflets delivered with each pack are provided to the healthcare workers administering the vaccine. This ensures that both patients and healthcare workers are informed about the vaccine and its use. Electronic versions of these documents are also available [here](#) and [here](#).

Each InterVax BCG vaccine pack contains twenty 1ml ampoules of freeze dried vaccine, (a maximum of 400 paediatric doses) and also contains the following:

- 1 pack of InterVax BCG vaccine diluent (20 ampoules)
- 20 PHE leaflets for healthcare professionals
- 200 PHE leaflets for patients
- 10 additional plastic squares used to wrap ampoules prior to opening.

Please note that the future supply of BCG vaccine for the UK remains fluid, due to on-going manufacturing issues with the UK licensed supply from AJ Vaccines (formerly SSI) and the

increased global demand which impacts availability of vaccine from other supply routes. The BCG vaccine continues to be made available in line with prioritisation advice to ensure this stock is directed to those at greatest risk.

Immunisers are encouraged to continue to organise the administration of BCG vaccinations in ways that optimise the use of the multi-dose ampoules, for example by scheduling patients requiring BCG vaccine into the same clinic. For detailed information about the InterVax BCG vaccine please see the special edition of Scottish Vaccine Update available [here](#).

Trends in influenza vaccine uptake

Again this year, over 70% of those aged 65 years and above, and primary school aged children have been immunized against influenza in Scotland. In addition, the uptake of influenza vaccination in children aged 2-5 years (not yet in school) has risen. This is a great achievement! However, there has been a fall in influenza vaccine uptake over the last four seasons, amounting to a drop of around 4% uptake amongst those 65 years and over, and a drop of more than 12% for those under 65 years and at risk, since 2013-14 (see figures 1 & 2 below). Provisional estimates of in-season influenza vaccine uptake are routinely published in our weekly HPS Influenza Report which can be found [here](#).

Figure 1: Vaccine uptake season comparison for those aged 65 years and above

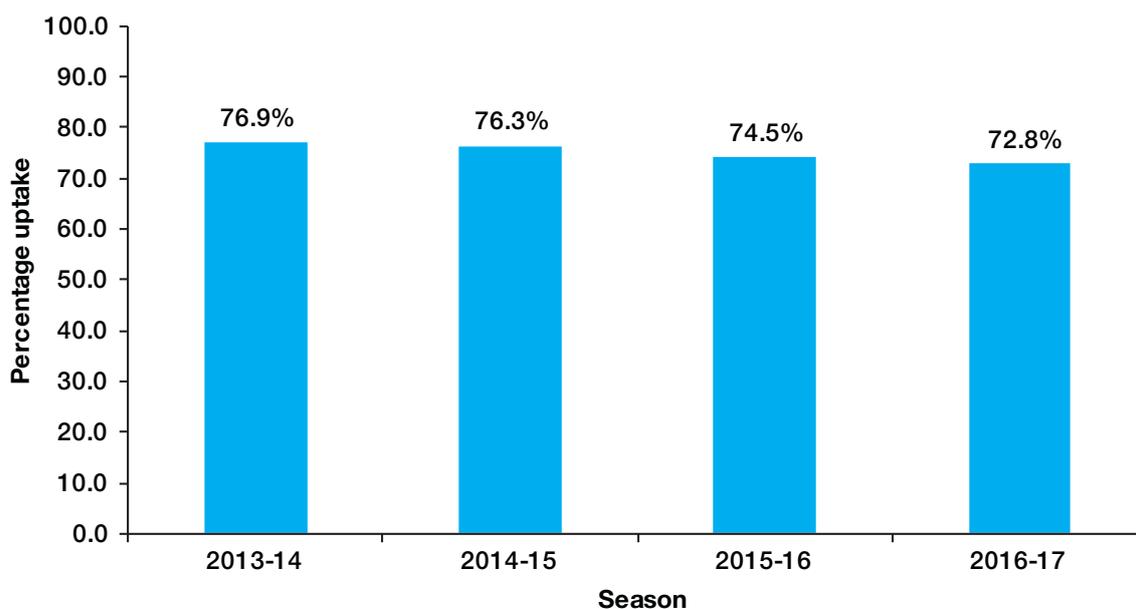
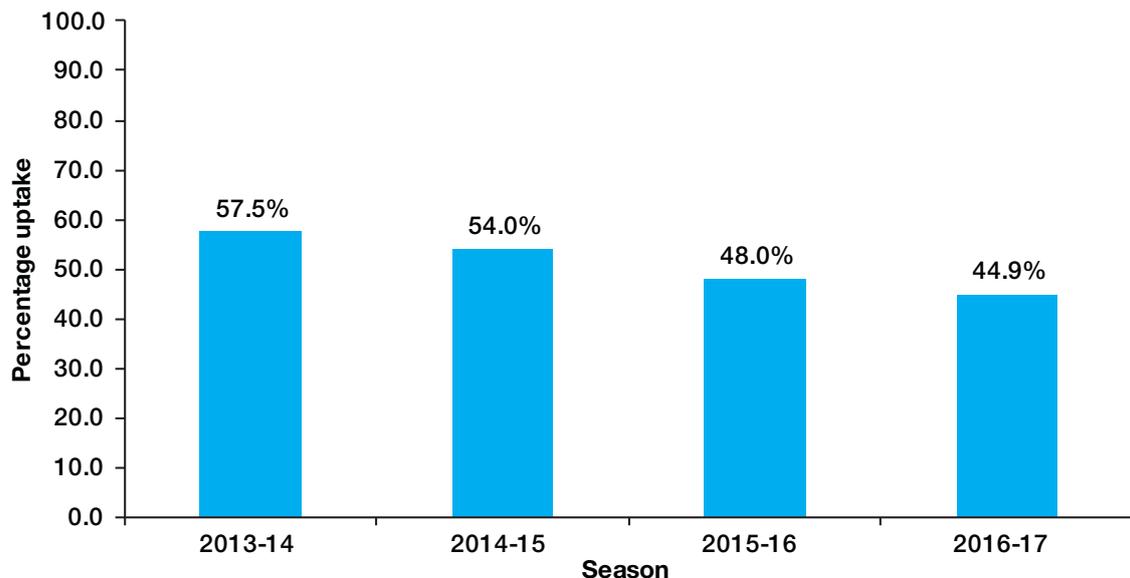


Figure 2: Vaccine uptake season comparison for Under 65 years At-Risk groups



Nimenrix® Packaging change

The packaging for Nimenrix® supplied for the MenACWY vaccination programme has been updated to reflect the change of manufacturer from GSK to Pfizer. The dimensions of the pack have changed slightly as follows:

- Old GSK carton: Width 55mm x Breadth 24mm x Length 133mm
- New Pfizer carton: Width 50mm x Breadth 28mm x Length 128mm

Please be aware of the size change when ordering vaccine as it may impact on the number of doses that can be stored locally.

The marketing authorisation for Nimenrix® has recently been updated. Nimenrix® is now licensed for use from age 6 weeks. The marketing authorisation holder's summary of product characteristics is available [here](#).

Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B vaccine availability

The following is an update on the supply situation for hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccine. The supply situation is dynamic and shortages from one supplier combined with increased demand due to outbreaks may put additional pressures on other manufacturers.

Hepatitis A vaccine

Adult vaccine

- Sanofi Pasteur currently have limited supplies of Avaxim® available.
- MSD are out of stock of VAQTA® Adult and estimate that supplies will resume around mid-June.
- GSK are currently in stock of single packs of Havrix® adult pre-filled syringes. Havrix® pre-filled syringe 10 packs are unavailable until 2018.

Paediatric vaccine

- MSD are out of stock of VAQTA® Paediatric and estimate that supplies will resume around August.
- GSK have paediatric doses of Havrix® Monodose available.

Hepatitis B vaccine

Adult vaccine

- MSD currently have the HBVAXPRO® 40 micrograms preparation in stock. The HBVAXPRO® 10 micrograms preparation is currently out of stock, anticipated to be back in stock around early July.
- GSK have Engerix® B pre-filled syringe singles and Engerix® B vials in stock. Engerix® B pre-filled syringe 10 packs are unavailable until 2018.
- GSK have supplies of Fendrix® available.

Paediatric vaccine

- MSD HBVaxPro® 5 micrograms is in stock but ordering restrictions are in place until around late-June.
- GSK have paediatric doses of Engerix® B in stock.

Combined hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccine

- Supplies of the adult and paediatric presentation (Twinrix® and Ambirix®) remain available from GSK.

During this period of limited supplies of hepatitis A and B vaccines consideration should be given to using combined hepatitis A and B vaccine if no monovalent hepatitis A vaccine is available for pre-exposure prophylaxis for at risk men who have sex with men.

Other vaccine supply issues

Typhoid vaccine

- GSK Typherix® vaccine is currently available in packs of 10. This stock has an expiry date of August 2017 and will be available to purchase until May.
- Sanofi Pasteur are in stock of Typhim® Vi.
- PaxVax are in stock of the oral vaccine, Vivotif®.

Combined hepatitis A and typhoid vaccine

- Sanofi Pasteur are experiencing supply constraints with ViaTIM® until around October 2017.
- GSK is out of stock of Hepatyrix® until at least 2019.

Rabies vaccine

- Sanofi Pasteur have intermittent supply constraints with the licensed preparation (Rabies Vaccine BP) until June and customers may wish to discuss obtaining supplies with Sanofi Pasteur directly.
- GSK currently have a new presentation of pre-filled syringes and vials of Rabipur® in stock.

Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPV)

- MSD are out of stock until late-April.

Revaxis® (Td/IPV) Vaccine

- Sanofi Pasteur has advised of limited supplies of Revaxis® (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis (inactivated) Vaccine) until early May 2017. Order restrictions are reviewed on a weekly basis and are subject to change depending on the current supply situation.

Green Book Updates

The Green Book is available [here](#) .

Chapter 35 (Yellow fever) has been updated. The chapter has been updated to include clarified requirements for yellow fever vaccination and International Health regulations regarding certifications and duration of protection. The updated chapter is available [here](#). Changes to yellow fever vaccination recommendations, as reported to WHO (2017), have been incorporated into the corresponding country pages of TRAVAX (www.travax.nhs.uk) and fitfortravel (www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk). A key change has been expansion of yellow fever risk and vaccine recommendations for Brazil. Please refer TRAVAX for the most current advice for travelers.

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