

Dear Colleagues,

We wish to offer you a massive thank you for your performance so far during the 21/22 Flu Programme.

Half-way into the flu immunisation season pharmacy colleagues have delivered **over half a million doses** of flu vaccination to eligible NHS patients in the East of England. This equates to over twice as many vaccines delivered in the same period during the 20/21 flu season.

Overall across the East of England over 80% of the over 65year-old cohort has been vaccinated but less than 45% of the at-risk under 65years-olds.

We wish to encourage you to continue the fantastic work you have achieved so far to ensure the maximum number of patients are vaccinated and protected before the flu starts to circulate. **Patients are accessing vaccination services in increasing numbers to get their COVID booster, and we should make every contact count to seize on this enthusiasm and offer the flu vaccination.**

The [PGD](#) and the [Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Advanced Service Specification](#) have been updated for this year only to enable community pharmacies to vaccinate primary care contractors (primary medical services, pharmaceutical services, primary dental services or general ophthalmic services) and their frontline staff, who elect to receive their vaccination from the community pharmacy.

Plenty of flu vaccines are still available to order to achieve this year's flu target ambitions and details can be found on the next slide. We hope you find this bulletin useful. If you have any questions, please contact:

Team	Email	Query type
Screening and Immunisation Teams	For East Anglia email: <a href="mailto:England.eaimms@nhs.net">England.eaimms@nhs.net</a> For Essex email: <a href="mailto:England.essexatimms@nhs.net">England.essexatimms@nhs.net</a> For Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes email: <a href="mailto:England.immsqa@nhs.net">England.immsqa@nhs.net</a>	For any questions or suggestions for the bulletin  For any flu immunisation clinical query
East of England Contracting Team	<a href="mailto:england.pharmacyeast@nhs.net">england.pharmacyeast@nhs.net</a>	Commissioning and Contracting queries

Alternatively you may wish to contact your local LPC for support.

Best wishes,  
East of England Screening and Immunisation Team

NHS England and NHS Improvement



# 2021/22 Flu vaccination bulletin for Community Pharmacy



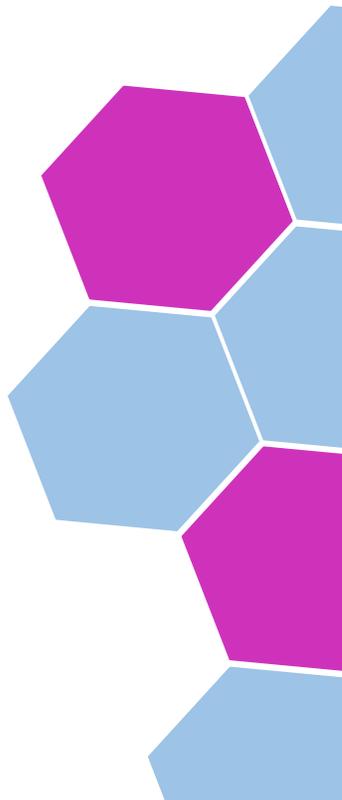
# Additional Flu vaccines stock available to order

- DHSC additional vaccine supply:
  - Alliance – there is no minimum order required for QIVc; stock should be available and pharmacies can place orders as required.
  - Phoenix should also have stock but it is understood that this was initially used to fulfil pre-orders from pharmacies.
- Seqirus have confirmed that there is still both aQIV and QIVc available to order from them directly. To place orders an account will need to be set up with Seqirus.
- Sanofi update: QIVr available and this has been earmarked by DHSC for the “top up process”. DHSC are currently reluctant to release this to the Pharmacy/Wholesaler route.
- Sanofi are able to fulfil limited orders for either QIVr/QIVe (£100 minimum). Providers need an account set up **with Sanofi in which case they can turn an order around in 48 hours**. Some pharmacies might have dormant accounts listed which can be reactivated quickly otherwise the process to set up an account can take up to a week to complete.
- Viatris – Stock may also be available from Viatris. Please contact the manufacturer for further information.



# Vaccine and Uptake Ambitions

Eligible groups	Uptake ambition	Vaccines
<b>Routine programme</b>		
Aged 65 years and over	At least 85%	Egg grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine (aQIV)  Cell-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVc) or Recombinant quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVr) (if aQIV is not available)
At risk adults (aged 18 to 64), including pregnant women and 50 to 64 year old cohort	At least 75%	Cell-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVc) or Recombinant quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVr)  Egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVe) (as an alternative to QIVc or QIVr)
<b>Children's programme</b>		
At risk children aged from 6 months to less than 2 years	At least 75%	Egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVe)  LAIV and QIVc are not licenced for children under 2 years of age.
At risk children aged 2 to under 18 years	At least 75%	Live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) unless contraindicated or as an alternative to LAIV where parents object to porcine gelatine, then offer QIVc aged 2+.
Preschool children aged 2 & 3 years vaccinated in GP Practices	At least 70%	Live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV)
School aged children (vaccinated in school) including year 7-11 in secondary school		Live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) unless contraindicated or as an alternative to LAIV where parents object to porcine gelatine, then offer QIVc aged 2+.
Frontline health and social care workers	100% offered with 85% ambition	



# Flu vaccines 2021/22

## Flu vaccines 2021 to 2022 season

6 months to under 2 years	2 years to less than 18 years <sup>(ii)</sup>	2 years to less than 18 years <sup>(iii)</sup>	18 years to 64 years	65 years and over
<p><b>In a clinical risk group</b></p> <p><b>QIVe</b> (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine, egg grown)<sup>(i)</sup></p> <p>1<sup>(i)</sup> 3</p>	<p><b>Children and young people with no contraindications to LAIV</b></p> <p><b>Quadrivalent LAIV</b> (live attenuated influenza vaccine, nasal spray suspension)<sup>(i)</sup></p> <p>2<sup>(i)</sup></p>	<p><b>Children and young people if LAIV contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable<sup>(iii)</sup></b></p> <p><b>QIVc</b> (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine, cell-grown)</p> <p>4<sup>(i)</sup></p>	<p><b>QIVc</b> (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine, cell-grown)</p> <p><b>QIVr</b> (Recombinant quadrivalent influenza vaccine)</p> <p><b>or QIVe</b> (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine, egg grown) if QIVc or QIVr not available</p> <p>4 5 or 1 3</p>	<p><b>aQIV</b> (Adjuvanted quadrivalent influenza vaccine)<sup>(i)</sup></p> <p><b>or QIVc</b> (Quadrivalent influenza vaccine, cell-grown) if aQIV not available</p> <p><b>or QIVr</b> (Recombinant quadrivalent influenza vaccine) if aQIV not available</p> <p>6 or 4 5</p>

**Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine**  
Sanofi Pasteur

QIVe

1

licensed from 6 months of age

**Fluenz\* Tetra**  
AstraZeneca

LAIV

2

licensed from 2 years to less than 18 years of age

**Influvac sub-unit Tetra**  
Viatris (formerly Mylan)

QIVe

3

licensed from 6 months of age

**Flucelvax Tetra**  
Seqirus

QIVc

4

licensed from 2 years of age

**Supemtek**  
Sanofi Pasteur

QIVr

5

licensed from 18 years of age

**Flud Tetra**  
Seqirus

aQIV

6

licensed from 65 years of age

**Eligible groups**

- aged 2 and 3 years on 31 August 2021
- school aged children from Reception Year up to Year 11
- those aged 6 months to under 50 years in clinical risk groups
- pregnant women
- those aged 50 years and over<sup>(i)</sup>
- those in long-stay residential care homes
- carers
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- frontline health and social care staff

**See Green Book Influenza Chapter 19 for full details on eligible groups**

**Resources**

**Annual flu programme**  
[www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-flu-programme](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-flu-programme)

**Green Book Influenza Chapter 19**  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/influenza-the-green-book-chapter-19](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/influenza-the-green-book-chapter-19)

<sup>(i)</sup> Vaccines for eligible children and young people (aged 18 years of age and under) have been found to be safe to use in their first year in clinical risk groups only.

<sup>(ii)</sup> If the parent of an eligible child declines LAIV because of a possible gelatine contraindication, they understand that, as the most effective vaccine for children, they can request a non-live injectable vaccine. QIVc is available to order from the firm for these children.

<sup>(iii)</sup> Although aQIV is not licensed for those less than 65 years of age, it is recommended that those who will become 65 years of age before 31 March 2022 can be offered the vaccine 'off-label' (i.e. including those becoming 65 years of age by 31/03/2022).

**Flu i mmunisation**  
Helping to protect people, every winter

© Crown Copyright 2021  
Public Health England (Creative Commons BY-NC-ND 4.0)



# Flu vaccine suppliers

Supplier	Name of product	Vaccine type	Age indications	Ovalbumin content micrograms/dose	Contact details
AstraZeneca UK Ltd	Fluenz® Tetra	Quadrivalent LAIV (live attenuated influenza vaccine) supplied as nasal spray suspension	From 24 months to less than 18 years of age	Less than 0.024 micrograms per 0.2 ml dose	0845 139 0000
MASTA	Quadrivalent Influenza vaccine	QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine), split virion, inactivated	From 6 months	Equal to or less than 0.05 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose	0113 238 7552
Sanofi Pasteur Vaccines	Quadrivalent Influenza vaccine	QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine), split virion, inactivated	From 6 months	Equal to or less than 0.05 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose	0800 854 430
Viatrix (formerly Mylan)	Quadrivalent Influvac® sub-unit Tetra ▼	QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated	From 6 months	Equal to or less than 0.1 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose	0800 358 7468
Seqirus UK Ltd	Flucelvax® Tetra ▼	QIVc (cell-grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated	From 2 years	Egg-free	08457 451 500
Sanofi Pasteur Vaccines	Supemtek ▼	QIVr (quadrivalent Influenza vaccine (recombinant, prepared in cell culture))	From 18 years	Egg-free	0800 854 430
Seqirus UK Ltd	Fluad Tetra ▼	aQIV (egg-grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated, adjuvanted with MF59C.1	From 65 years	Equal to or less than 1 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose	08457 451 500



# ‘Boost Your Immunity This Winter’ marketing and communications campaign

As part of the joint government campaign, **Boost Your Immunity This Winter**, NHSEI do a lot of work around flu vaccinations and targeting the clinical risk groups. Specific marketing and advertising is aimed at the clinical risk groups but we are always looking for new ways to communicate with the community to encourage flu vaccine uptake.



A full range of campaign resources are available to order. Thank you for your ongoing support.

[PHE Boost Your Immunity This Winter Webinar/Posters/Leaflets](#)

NHS England and NHS Improvement



# FAQs

**Q. If an individual has had confirmed influenza recently and they are in an at risk group should they still have the vaccine?**

Anyone eligible to receive the vaccine should still have it even if they have had confirmed influenza, either recently or in the past.

**Q. At what stage of pregnancy should pregnant women be offered the flu vaccine?**

**All pregnant women** should be offered an inactivated influenza vaccine regardless of their stage of pregnancy.

**Q. Are all people with asthma eligible for an NHS flu vaccination under the national flu Vaccination Enhanced Service?**

**Only** people that have asthma that requires continuous or repeated use of inhaled or systemic steroids or with previous exacerbations requiring hospital admission are eligible for the flu vaccine.

**Q. Is a patient with epilepsy eligible for an NHS flu vaccination under the national flu Vaccination Service?**

Epilepsy is not considered a high-risk group for flu; therefore, patients with epilepsy are not entitled to an NHS flu vaccination unless they fall into another eligible group.

**Q. Can the flu vaccine be given to women who are breastfeeding?**

The flu vaccine can be given to breastfeeding women; however, they are not eligible for an NHS vaccine unless they are in a clinical risk group.



# Useful links for Pharmacy Staff

[National flu programme 2021/22 letter](#)

[Annual flu programme](#)

[Immform - data collection guidance](#)

[Flu PGD Updated Oct 2021](#)

[NHSE advanced service spec](#)

[Vaccine update](#)

[Latest coverage data](#)

[NICE guidelines on increasing flu uptake](#)

[Influenza - Green Book](#)

