

URGENT: QIVe/QIVc/aTIV Adult Flu Vaccine Orders

To support planning for the upcoming flu season, as outlined in the [2020/21 annual flu immunisation programme letter](#) published on 14 May, the CCG have been asked to provide a review of the vaccine orders placed so far to make sure the number of vaccines ordered meet at least national ambitions and previous uptakes rates, whichever is highest. Please can you supply to us before **12 midday on Thursday 21st May** the total number of flu vaccine orders you have placed as of 15th May 2020 for the following Flu vaccines

- QIVe
- QIVc
- aTIV

Please insert your figures on the attached template and return to ddccg.primarycarequalityteam@nhs.net

We appreciate that at this time practices are busy with COVID 19 activity but your engagement in this request is vital to ensure that our community is protected during the coming Flu season.

NHS England have requested that this element from the Flu DES is shared with practices, highlighting that *aTIV is the first line vaccine for over 65s*

The DES specification should be treated as a binding contract and once a practice signs up to the DES, it must provide every service under the DES specification as specified e.g. recommended aTIV vaccine for over 65s or QIVc if aTIV is not available (to order). Practices will be expected to deliver vaccinations to eligible patients for both the seasonal flu and pneumococcal vaccination programme both of which are covered in the DES.

Practices who do not use the recommended vaccine when it is available are potentially in breach of their contract as follows;

- 1. failure to provide the correct vaccine for over 65s and consequently***
- 2. failure to provide the required services under the DES***

Administering QIVc rather than aTIV in over 65s, fails to satisfy the payment conditions in the DES specification (unless the practice can show that aTIV vaccine was unavailable at the point of ordering) and payment can be withheld in respect of those patients.

[Seqirus are currently still able to support practices to amend their vaccine orders for the 20/21 Flu programme?](#)