

# NHS Flu Season 2018/19

There are generally **THREE big opportunities** for a flu intervention conversation with all of your regular patients each year.

The highest performing flu volume pharmacies have found that it is key to **plan, identify and book in as many vaccinations as possible to manage the delivery of their service each day**. Previously we have encouraged you to do this as early in the season as possible, however due to the phased deliveries of the aTIV vaccine this year a PRIORITY ORDER should be followed for bookings this year.

There are no phased deliveries for QIV stock, so book in the under 65s as soon as possible for early to mid-September.

Planning your appointments will be key to achieving successful results and hopefully big increases in numbers again over last year.

**Please see the following 2<sup>nd</sup> postcard for this week's suggested actions from CPSC.**

For more information please check out the following guidance documents to help organise delivery of this years' service:

- [PSNC flu vaccination service 2018/19 – guidance for contractors](#)
- [Letter form NHS England, PSNC & BMA](#)
- [NHS England Guidance](#)

# Influenza



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**Key actions to start this week:**      **5 weeks to go ...** Ensure each pharmacy has a new fit for purpose Flu diary

1. Every prescription being dispensed for people identified in the following FOUR groups below needs to be flagged on PMR and their bagged Rx awaiting collection.
  - a. all people over 75 years old (**PRIORITY 1**)
  - b. all people 65 - 74 years old, in a clinical at-risk group (**PRIORITY 2**)
  - c. all people 65 - 74 years old, but not in a clinical at-risk group (**PRIORITY 3**)
  - d. PLUS, all people under 18 - 64 years old assessed as being in a clinical at-risk group (**ALSO PRIORITY 1**)
2. **Every patient identified above should have a flu conversation on picking up their Rx.**
3. Where patients are not eligible for the NHS service, then offer a Private service (if you deliver such a service) and again mark the PMR.
4. Book in patients for appointments from the recommended start dates below and update PMR.

PRIORITY 1 – mid-September (early September for under 65s if you are confident on receiving QIV stock)

PRIORITY 2 – early October

PRIORITY 3 – late October onwards
5. **Repeat steps 1 – 4 for every patient for the next 4 weeks of the dispensing cycle.**
6. Contact last years vaccinated patients and invite them to book an early appointment.
7. **The second opportunity is to re-ask patients in 4 weeks' time at go-live (mid-September).**
8. **A third opportunity a further 4 weeks later (mid-October) exists before the demand drops off dramatically around mid-November.**



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