

## **Local Outbreak Engagement Board**

**7<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

### **COVID-19 Booster Jabs and Flu Vaccine**

#### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with details of the forthcoming flu vaccination campaign and the COVID-19 booster vaccine programme.

#### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That, subject to any comments Board Members may wish to make, the report be noted.

#### **3. COVID vaccination programme - Phase three**

3.1 We are now approaching Phase 3 of the COVID-19 vaccination programme which will be delivered in 2 stages:

Stage 1 - The following persons should be offered a third dose COVID-19 booster vaccine and the annual influenza vaccine, as soon as possible from September 2021:

- Adults aged 16 years and over who are immunosuppressed;
- Those living in residential care homes for older adults;
- All adults aged 70 years or over;
- Adults aged 16 years and over who are considered clinically extremely vulnerable;
- Frontline health and social care workers.

Stage 2 - The following persons should be offered a third dose COVID-19 booster vaccine as soon as practicable after Stage 1, with equal emphasis on deployment of the influenza vaccine where eligible:

- All adults aged 50 years and over
- Adults aged 16 – 49 years who are in an influenza or COVID-19 at-risk group

3.2. People eligible for the Flu vaccine:

- All children aged 2 to 15 (but not 16 years or older) on 31 August 2021
- Those aged 6 months to under 50 years in clinical risk groups\*
- Pregnant women
- Those aged 50 years and over
- Those in long-stay residential care homes
- Carers
- Close contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- Frontline health and social care staff employed by:
  - A registered residential care or nursing home
  - Registered domiciliary care provider
  - A voluntary managed hospice provider

Direct Payment (personal budgets) and/or Personal Health Budgets, such as Personal Assistants.

All frontline health and social care workers are expected to have influenza vaccination to protect those they care for.

### 3.3 Clinical Risk Groups

Clinical risk groups include, but not exhausted to:

Chronic (long-term) respiratory disease, such as asthma (requires continuous or repeated use of inhaled or systemic steroids or with previous exacerbations requiring hospital admission), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or bronchitis

Chronic heart disease, such as heart failure

Chronic kidney disease at stage 3, 4 or 5

Chronic liver disease

Chronic neurological disease, such as Parkinson's disease or motor neurone disease

Learning disability

Diabetes

Splenic dysfunction or asplenia

A weakened immune system due to disease (such as HIV/AIDS) or treatment (such as cancer treatment)

Morbidly obese (defined as BMI of 40 and above)

Healthcare practitioners should refer to the influenza chapter in 'Immunisation against infectious disease' (the 'Green Book') for further detail about clinical risk groups advised to receive influenza immunisation and advice on contraindications and precautions for the influenza vaccines.

### 3.4 Combined COVID-19 booster and Flu campaign

It is not yet confirmed that the Flu and Covid-19 booster can be given at the same time. In anticipation of this we are planning a combined system-wide campaign that majors on the following:

- Maximising the intention of take-up of both vaccines among eligible groups, by addressing barriers and increasing understanding of the benefits
- Generating high-levels of confidence in flu and COVID-19 vaccination
- Generating high levels of knowledge about who is eligible
- Ensuring people know how/where to get vaccinated.

### 3.5 Campaign delivery plan

- Black Country and West Birmingham wide resources for all to share, hosted on the CCG website.
- Various communication toolkits for internal and external use
- All campaign resources for COVID-19 booster and flu campaign
- Resources to be disseminated to health and care organisations to share with own stakeholders and communication channels
- Local experts and clinicians to reinforce national messages in a variety of multimedia to support digital channels
- All to seek people stories and real local faces – photos or videos - in particular:

- BAME community members/staff
- Pregnant women
- Staff

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