

## SBAR on Flu vaccination programme

The purpose of this SBAR is to inform the Board of the main features and plans for the flu vaccination programme for 2020/21.

### Situation

The Board's Corporate Management Team is making good progress with the logistical challenges of providing the seasonal flu vaccination programme. NHS Lanarkshire will take responsibility for the full delivery of the whole campaign this year for the first time.

### Background

The traditional seasonal flu campaign begins this week, with a tapered approach to achieving full daily clinic capacity from 12 October, with the aim to complete the main body of the programme by the end of November.

The extended programme (shielding patients' families' and 55-64 year olds), will then take place in December, depending on sufficient vaccine stocks remaining available. This is in line with Scottish Government correspondence (SGHD/CMO (2020)19 issued 7 August 2020, which highlighted that it is imperative that the NHS in Scotland does everything it can to reduce the impact of seasonal flu on those most at and requires all NHS Boards to do everything they can to increase uptake by delivering Influenza vaccine in an accessible, timely way.

The Scottish Immunisation Recall System (SIRS) will be used to issue invitations to all eligible patients. The legacy nature of this system has provided some challenges in securing a flexible and patient-centred system, but NHS Lanarkshire has worked closely with National Services Scotland and Scottish Government to overcome and mitigate these. A rebooking service for patients who are unable to attend their allocated appointment will be provided by the referral management service.

### Assessment

It is important that the highest risk groups are prioritised as it seems likely that a 28 day gap will be required between flu and Covid-19 vaccination, although a definitive date for this latter vaccine is not yet available. The Scottish Government recognises that delivering the programme this year will be more challenging than ever before because of the impact and challenges of Covid-19.

Vaccination of both Health and Social Care staff is a key part of this year's campaign, and is led by Salus Occupational Health which delivers staff Seasonal Influenza Immunisation programme on behalf of NHS Lanarkshire to both staff employed by NHS Lanarkshire and North and South Lanarkshire Council staff. This programme will feature a combination of peer Immunisation and mass vaccination approaches.

NHS Lanarkshire has also worked closely with both councils to develop plans for the use of large council venues for Covid-safe Mass Vaccination clinics for the general

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population. At least one location has been identified in each locality, and these will be used to provide vaccination clinics for both over 65s and other adults in “at risk” groups. They will subsequently also be used to vaccinate shielding patients’ families’ and 55-64 year olds when the extended programme begins in December.

Vaccination of primary school children began on 21 September and will continue until mid-December. For the first time this year, the school vaccination team will also take undertake catch-up sessions in all schools for children who were not present at the initial opportunity. This responsibility previously lay with general practice, but it is hoped that providing a further opportunity in the school environment will improve uptake. Children in the 2-5 year old group and those between 6 months and 2 years who are at additional risk will be vaccinated by health visiting teams. District nursing teams will continue to vaccinate housebound residents at home and care home residents will be prioritised for delivery of vaccine. They will be vaccinated by the nursing team in their home.

A workforce plan to support this is currently being implemented. The Corporate Management Team has agreed that given the priority of delivery of flu vaccine this year, a whole system approach will be taken with all available registered staff who are able to do so assisting with the delivery of the campaign, regardless of current role. Multi-professional staff from primary care, general practice, acute services and mental health will all participate.

### Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- note the plans in place to deliver the flu vaccination programme for 2020/21.

The programme is being led by Dr Mark Russell, Associate Medical Director, North Lanarkshire HSCP & GP Partner, Tinto Medical Practice, Airdrie Health Centre

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Title Board Secretary  
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