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Gateway reference: 15767

To: SHA Immunisation Leads
PCT Immunisation Co-ordinators

16 March 2011

Dear Colleague

Efficient Use of Vaccines

My colleague, Jo Yarwood, wrote to you on [8 September](#) and [27 September 2010](#) giving details of the VESPA (Vaccine Efficiency Savings Programme Audit) programme of work.

One of the most important elements of VESPA is the provision of more comprehensive information at PCT and GP Practice level on the amount of vaccines needed to immunise their populations (the VNN or “Vaccine Number Needed”), the actual amounts of vaccine ordered, and the value of vaccines ordered. The previous letters gave information on how GP practices and PCTs can use ImmForm to access this important information.

The use of VNNs to monitor Pediacel ordering has been running successfully since October 2010. From April, new 2011/12 VNNs will be issued for Pediacel and, for the first time, for Prevenar13 and Menitorix. The purpose of this letter is to advise you how this will be done, and give details of further improvements to ImmForm from April to assist the provision of vaccine information.

VNN (Vaccine Number Needed) for 2011/12

The current VNN period for Pediacel ends on 31 March. New VNN figures for the 2011/12 financial year will be available on ImmForm for PCTs to review / amend from 1 April 2011.

This new VNN data will be accessible by GP practices from 1 May 2011.

Vaccine Stock-Take

GP practices already keep local records of their vaccine stocks. From April, it will be possible for this information to be input and stored on ImmForm. This will help to assure the availability of centrally procured vaccines.

All NHS GP practices in England are invited to take part in the first annual stock-take of vaccine. GP practices will be able to enter on the ImmForm website the number of Pediacel, Prevenar13 and Menitorix doses they hold in their fridge(s) at the end of Thursday 31 March.

Full details about this stock-take will be advertised on ImmForm. An online helpsheet has been produced. Please see 'Helpsheet 15 – Vaccine stock-take' which is available from the ImmForm [HelpSheets](#) page. I would be grateful for your help in publicising this to your local GP practices.

Please note that a report is available on ImmForm that shows whether practices in your area are registered on ImmForm, and whether they use it for vaccine ordering.

To access the report:

1. Login to www.immform.dh.gov.uk
2. Click Vaccine Supply
3. Click Reports
4. Click ImmForm Registration Status Report
5. Select the desired method of output and click Generate.

Many thanks again for your support. If you have any queries about the contents of this letter please contact the [ImmForm Helpdesk](#).

Yours sincerely



Dorian Kennedy

Head of Immunisation Branch