



CEG Guide: Childhood Immunisation programme changes, 2021/22

Vaccinations are now an essential contractual service, rather than an additional service.

What does this mean for the payment mechanism?

Before 1 April 2021:	From 1 April 2021:
<p>Childhood Vaccination DES: 4 indicators (lower target 70%, higher target 90%*)</p> <p>Cohort aged 2 but not 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTaP Pol Hib • MMR • Men C <p>Cohort aged 5 but not 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTaP/IPV 	<p>QOF: 3 indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uptake of 3 doses of Hexa at 8 months (90-95%) • Uptake of 1 dose of MMR between 12 and 18 months (90-95%) • Uptake of pre-school boosters (1 DTaP/IPV and 2 MMR) between 1 and 5 years (87-95%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practices not reaching 70% coverage received nothing. • No money upfront. • Local incentive schemes • Additional and enhanced services (eg Rotavirus) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practices receive some payment if they reach over 50% coverage. • Money can get clawed back. • Items of service (£10.06 per dose) – monthly payments calculated by CQRS (lower target 50%, higher target 80%)

For full details, see page 10 of the [BMA guide](#).

* Please note that the way these targets were calculated is different from the COVER targets – the cohorts are different.

Personalised Care Adjustments (PCA, formerly exception reporting)

Under the DES, there was **no option to report an exception**, for example if a child's parents decline the offer of vaccination. This remains unchanged in relation to these year's payments (QOF and Items of Service). The emphasis of the programme is on public health and immunising a high enough proportion of patients to protect the whole population.



So NHS England has reiterated that **pop-ups will remain in place** 'to maximise opportunities for opportunistic vaccination'. To make sure your message is received in the best possible way, we'd suggest **not reacting to these flags or pop-ups without reading details of any previous conversations with parents** on the subject of vaccinations.

There is a reference to the possibility that a practice might get to keep fees without reaching 50% uptake under very exceptional circumstances. This might be relevant to some NEL practices, but we would suggest approaching commissioners to find out what counts as 'extenuating circumstances'.

Useful resources

- [NHSE update](#) on changes dated 10 March 2021.
- The [QOF Book](#) (our pet name for the full QOF Guidance, which used to be a real book on our shelves).
- Update to the [Contract Agreement 2020/21 to 2023/24](#) published on 6 Feb 2020.

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