# **Flu vaccine survey for General Ophthalmic Services contractors on behalf of NHS England and NHS Improvement**

It’s more important than ever to ensure staff and patients are protected from flu. [The flu vaccine is a safe and effective vaccine](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/) which [helps reduce the risk of flu-related hospitalisations](https://www.nhsemployers.org/retention-and-staff-experience/health-and-wellbeing/taking-a-targeted-approach/flu-fighter/why-it-matters).

On behalf of NHS England and NHS Improvement, we’ve created a survey to understand how many frontline healthcare workers have had their flu vaccine.

If you’re a General Ophthalmic Service (GOS) contractor, complete our flu vaccine survey between **Friday 4December 2020 and 6.59pm on Friday 18 December 2020**. The survey asks two questions and should only take two minutes to complete:

1. How many staff with patient contact are currently working on your premises?

2. How many staff have had a flu vaccine (since September 2020)?

## **Importance of the survey**

The information you submit will help NHS England and NHS Improvement:

* with their flu and COVID-19 planning
* to understand the uptake of the flu vaccine
* to create a national and local level response to the uptake of the flu vaccine
* to plan next season’s flu vaccination programme, particularly in relation to vaccine supply requirements and the imminent arrival of COVD-19 vaccinations

## **Accessing the survey**

If you’re a registered GOS contractor and we hold your email address, we’ll send you a link to complete the survey from [survey@webhost.snapsurveys.com](mailto:survey@webhost.snapsurveys.com) on Friday 4 December 2020.

If you don’t receive a survey link from us, you can [access the flu vaccine survey online](https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=160675302704).

To access the questions, you’ll need your unique ODS code. Your ODS code is the same code you use to order stationery.

You can use [NHS Digital’s ODS Portal](https://odsportal.hscic.gov.uk/Organisation/Search) to locate your ODS code. If you cannot obtain your ODS code, contact [nhsbsa.paos@nhs.net](mailto:nhsbsa.paos@nhs.net).

You will be asked to supply your name and email address. This information will be used to contact you if there are any queries.

## **Submitting your response**

Submit your response based on actual staffing heads at your practice rather than whole time equivalents (WTE). We understand you might have staff working across multiple premises, however, please include them in your final premises figure.

If you are unable to verify exact staffing levels, only report those you are aware of. This is important to help NHS England and NHS Improvement plan their response to the uptake of the flu vaccine.

Check your answers before submitting them. Once your response has been submitted, the information cannot be changed.

## **How we’ll use your response**

The collated information from the survey will be shared with NHS England and NHS Improvement central teams.

Please note, you will not be managed based on your response, this is a data exercise aimed at informing future winter planning.

If you have any queries, contact our Provider Assurance Ophthalmic team at [nhsbsa.paos@nhs.net](mailto:nhsbsa.paos@nhs.net/). Our inbox is monitored between 8am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.