

COVID-19 Vaccination Service Site Sign-up Process Clarifications Log: 3 – 30 July 2024

1. Please accept my apologies for delayed response, to email below, can I please check that I don't need to complete sign up process for co-administration of covid/flu vaccines?

In summary, [REDACTED] is our local vaccination site and we have an internal agreement that they supply our COVID vials and we continue to vaccinate our patients and also our residential homes, as with previous year we have vaccinated both COVID and flu together but I think the sign up is for [REDACTED] to complete?

Any provider who wishes to participate in the COVID-19 vaccination programme should submit a Response Document through this Site Sign-Up Process. GP Practices must collaborate and participate in this process as PCN groupings. Within this, only one GP practice needs to sign up on behalf of their PCN grouping and they can nominate one of their healthcare premises to be the Designated Site where vaccines are delivered. Additional Temporary / Short Term sites can then be set up through the PCN Grouping, which can be on healthcare or non-healthcare premises. Please note, GPs are able to sign up to the seasonal influenza vaccination programme 2024/2025 individually or as part of a collaboration, under the [Enhanced Service Specification](#).

2. Within the Schedule 3 Pricing document ('PRN01043iii'), could we confirm whether the rate for payment would change beyond the 31st of March 2025?

Section 3.1 shows that payment arrangements are applicable 'From 1 September 2024 to 31 March 2025', and section 3.2 states that 'From 1 April 2025 the payment arrangements shall be set out at paragraph 3.1 unless the Commissioner notifies the Provider of a change to the payment arrangements from 1 April 2025 at least 49 days prior to 1 April 2025.'

However, the red highlighted text at the top of p.5 of the Schedule states that:

'These arrangements apply from 1 September 2024 to 31 March 2026 together with any extension of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Schedule 2a of up to 12 months.', suggesting that the pricing included in the Schedule would remain fixed until 2026, rather than being open to change from the 1 April 2025.

Please could we confirm how the pricing approach would operate for any suppliers during this opportunity?

We can confirm that the payment arrangements will remain the same throughout the duration of the contract unless the Commissioner notifies providers otherwise. If any change to payment arrangements is made, it would apply from 1 April 2025 and would need to be notified to providers at least 49 days prior to this.

3. Also, within the Schedule 3 Pricing Document ('PRN01043iii'), could we confirm the difference between section 3.1.1.4 and 3.1.1.1, as 3.1.1.1 reads that pricing is fixed per vaccination, whereas line 3.1.1.4 suggests that a pricing rate is to be inserted? Section 3.1.1.1 states the fee per vaccination is "£7.54 which shall be payable to the Provider for administration of each COVID-19 vaccination commissioned under Schedule 2A." It also states that "[This is mandatory – do not amend]".

Paragraph 3.1.1.4 is for the Commissioner to provide the agreed total that will be paid to the provider. This is based on the site capacity (i.e. the expected number of vaccinations to be administered) combined with the standard IoS fee of £7.54. This can be adjusted at the discretion of the Commissioner, such as in the event of a Surge. Reconciliation of the agreed payment provided by the Commissioner to the Provider shall take place in accordance with the Standard Contract Payment Guidance.

4. For the avoidance of doubt as a non-General Practitioner (GP) / non-Community Pharmacy (CP) provider, please could we confirm whether we are interpreting the response guidance correctly? We have reviewed all documentation across the NHSBSA site/NHS England site, as specified in the Contract Notice for this opportunity. It is our interpretation that we can disregard the following documents as a non-GP / non-CP provider:

- PRN00997i-gp-covid-19-es-specification-1-sept-2024-31-march-2026.pdf: Applies to GPs only, to be ignored
- PRN00997ii-cp-covid-19-es-1-sept-2024-31-march-2026.pdf: Applies to Community Pharmacies only, to be ignored
- PRN00999-pcn-grouping-collaboration-agreement-1-sept-2024-31-march-2026.pdf: Applies to GPs only, to be ignored

Please could the Authority confirm the accuracy of this view, for non-GP / non-CP providers?

This is correct, as a non-General Practitioner and non-Community Pharmacy Provider, the guidance in these documents do not apply.

5. For the avoidance of doubt, could we confirm that the delivery of Seasonal Influenza and Childhood Seasonal Influenza vaccinations are only for General Practitioner and Community Pharmacy providers? Moreover, that any other providers will only be required to deliver COVID-19 vaccinations?

PCNs and Community Pharmacies are required to deliver flu vaccinations throughout the term of their COVID contract. Other providers are not required to provide flu vaccinations.

6. I have not received any emails on my contact, only my colleague is receiving emails who is the second contact. The first contact and IT user 1 is not receiving any emails.
How can this be sorted please ?

Please check your spam/junk folders and contact your named lead from the regional commissioning team for support.

7. Please could the Authority confirm that this procurement exercise is a separate process to the current regional procurement opportunities taking place, e.g.,:

- > Community Covid Vaccine - Fixed Sites South West Region Wave 1
- > Community COVID-19 Vaccination Service – Fixed Sites – Northwest – Wave 1

If so, please could the Authority advise whether / when future rounds for future Vaccination Campaigns are likely to be issued?

This procurement exercise is a Site Sign-up process and is separate to the regional Site Selection Processes to which you refer and which are currently ongoing on the Health Family Portal. The Site Selection process follows this Site Sign-Up Process where it is necessary to deliver additional vaccinations capacity in the upcoming campaign.

Providers can continue to apply via this Site Sign-up process. As the interim deadline has passed, any submissions will be provided for the next campaign (i.e. after Autumn 2025).

8. In relation to the following Response Document question, please could we confirm whether any standard contract with the NHS would suffice, or whether this standard contract has to be linked to Vaccination Services?

A8 Does the Potential Supplier hold (or will hold by the Commencement Date): an NHS Standard Contract (not including the contract that this process may lead to)?* (Yes = Pass / No = Decision Pending Status) [SnapSurvey only]

That is correct, any standard contract with the NHS would suffice, it does not need to be linked to Vaccination Services.