

Office of the Assistant National Director Enhanced Community Care Programme & T: 021-4928512 **Primary Care Contracts Health Service Executive**

Floor 2, Model Business Park, Model Farm Road, Cork, T12 HT02 E: Vaccinations.PrimaryCareContractors@hse.ie

www.hse.ie

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COVID-19 and Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Programme Update

Dear Doctor,

Thank you for your participation in the autumn / winter COVID-19 and seasonal influenza campaign. The seasonal influenza campaign will continue as usual until the end of April. However, the COVID-19 autumn winter booster programme will end this week on 18th February 2024. COVID-19 vaccinations will pause for the majority of people, with the exception of the cohorts detailed below.

GPs are requested to maintain some vaccine stock to continue to provide COVID-19 vaccines to those who are eligible for vaccination outside of the seasonal booster campaigns. These include:

- Those aged 12 years and over who require primary course vaccination
- Those who are pregnant and require a booster dose

Please refer to NIO guidance for the latest clinical information and eligibility: https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/covid19vaccineinfo4hps/

For any clinical gueries please contact immunisation@hse.ie.

If an eligible patient comes forward and you are not in a position to provide the vaccination, you can direct them to HSE Live Freephone 1800 700 700, for support in accessing a provider in their area.

From 18th February 2024, COVID-19 vaccination certificates will no longer be issued. Guidance will be available to those requiring a record of vaccination, via the HSE website or HSElive on 1800 700 700.

Autumn / Winter Programme delivery in Primary Care

Over 1,300 GP practices have participated in the 2023/24 autumn / winter campaign.

As of 11th February, a total of 1,164,315 flu vaccines have been recorded on COVAX. Of these, 717,984 (61.6%) were administered by GP practices.

Of the 766,022 COVID-19 booster doses administered in the current campaign, 428,469 (56%) were administered by GP practices. In total, since COVID-19 vaccination began in 2021, GPs have administered a total of 2,185,033 primary doses and 2,514,798 booster doses.



Further guidance is expected from NIAC shortly in relation to recommended COVID-19 seasonal booster schedules for 2024.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to General Practitioners and their teams for the efficient manner in which the COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccination Programme has been delivered to date and for your ongoing commitment and support in the provision of vaccinations.

Yours sincerely,

Geraldine Crowley

Assistant National Director

Enhanced Community Care Programme &

Primary Care Contract