

# Vaccine supply information for the 2023 to 2024 children's flu programme

## General notes:

- Please note that all information on the availability and allocation of vaccines for the children's flu programme shown below remains subject to change.
- The latest and most accurate information on the availability of centrally supplied vaccines for the children's flu programme is available on the [ImmForm news](#) page at all times and it is strongly advised that all parties involved in the provision of influenza vaccines to children ensure they remain up to date with this information.
- UKHSA does not supply any flu vaccines for patients aged 18 years and over.
- Please refer to guidance from your respective health departments for arrangements in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

## Vaccines and availability

All flu vaccines for the 2023/24 children's flu programme will be available to order by NHS providers in England via UKHSA's ImmForm website.

The 2 vaccines available, indicative ordering dates and the groups these vaccines should be ordered for are shown in the table below.

At present these timings remain subject to change and plans for vaccination sessions should take account of this.

Vaccine	Manufacturer	Available to order for	Anticipated order opening for all providers
Fluenz® Tetra (LAIV)	AstraZeneca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All children from 2 years of age to school year 11; and</li><li>• Children in clinical risk groups aged 2 to &lt;18 years*</li></ul>	Early September
Cell Based Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine (Surface Antigen, Inactivated) (QIVc)	Seqirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children in clinical risk groups aged 6 months to &lt;2 years</li><li>• All other eligible** children aged 2 to &lt;18 years for whom LAIV is unsuitable</li></ul>	Early September

\*unless LAIV clinically contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable

\*\* Children from 2 years of age to school year 11, and children in clinical risk groups aged 2 to <18 years.

## LAIV ordering information for General Practice

As in previous seasons, ordering controls will be in place for general practices, to enable UKHSA to balance supply with demand. These controls work by allocating an amount of LAIV based on the number of registered eligible patients and are tailored to each practice.

UKHSA expects to be able to accommodate the following, however at this time, this information remains subject to change:

- Each GP practice will initially be allocated sufficient LAIV to vaccinate at least 50% of their eligible patients (all 2 and 3-year-olds, plus children in clinical risk groups from age 4 to <18 years) when ordering commences.
  - Increases to these allocations may be made in response to demand and vaccine availability.
- Requests for extra vaccine will be considered on a case-by-case basis throughout the ordering period. Requests for additional vaccine should be sent to the helpdesk ([helpdesk@immform.org.uk](mailto:helpdesk@immform.org.uk)) and should be sent in good time before your order cut-off. Out of schedule deliveries will be by exception only.

### **Multi-Branch Practices and LAIV allocations**

Please note that GP practices or groups that operate over multiple sites but are part of the same organisation will have a joint allocation (as in previous years), even where each site has a unique ImmForm account. This means that it is possible for one site to potentially order all of the available vaccine for the group, unless there is local agreement on how the allocated volume is shared. UKHSA recommend that this agreement is in place before ordering opens to reduce the risk of supply interruption. The information above allows practices to estimate the amount of vaccine they will be initially allocated, and how it should be split between all sites.

### **LAIV ordering information for school-age providers**

A default weekly ordering cap of 450 packs (4,500 doses) per week will be in place for school provider accounts.

Where this cap is insufficient and a provider needs a larger weekly volume of vaccine to deliver the programme (for example where a provider covers a large area using a single account), a higher weekly cap should be requested via the UKHSA Flu Vaccine Operations team by emailing [childfluvaccine@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:childfluvaccine@ukhsa.gov.uk). Requests should be made **by Friday 25 August** to ensure that accounts are set up correctly before vaccine ordering commences.

For one-off larger orders during the ordering period, requests should be made via [helpdesk@immform.org.uk](mailto:helpdesk@immform.org.uk).

### **Inactivated flu vaccine ordering**

The Cell Based Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine (Surface Antigen, Inactivated) (QIVc) will be available to order, **in a single dose pack**, for:

- Children in clinical risk groups aged from six months to less than 2 years old;
- Children aged from 2 to <18 years old in clinical risk groups for whom LAIV is clinically contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable; and

- Healthy children from 2 years old to those in school year 11, for whom LAIV is unsuitable (for example, due to objection to LAIV on the grounds of its porcine gelatine content)

Order controls will also be in place for this vaccine as follows:

- For GPs, there will be an initial cap of 10 doses/packs per week
- For school-age providers, there will be a cap of 450 doses/packs per week.

Best wishes,

Vaccine Supply team