

By e-mail to

Provider Medical Director
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Specialised Commissioning – South
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22nd August 2019

Dear Colleague,

Re: Commissioning and provision of Hepatitis B Vaccination for patients with Chronic Kidney Disease

As of 1st July 2019, commissioning responsibility and associated funding for Hepatitis B vaccination for patients with chronic kidney disease, has transferred from Primary Care Commissioning to Specialised Commissioning.

In March 2018, the NHS England General Medical Services Contract commissioning intentions set out the plan to make clear the responsibility to deliver Hepatitis B vaccinations to renal patients rests with the renal service and not with general practice unless locally agreed arrangements are in place to deliver this service.

Nephrology outpatient activity remains the commissioning responsibility of CCGs.

NHS England Regional teams will issue a contract variation and make a block payment to Trusts to offset the part year costs of the vaccine in 2019/20 calculated using dialysis populations derived from UK Renal Registry data. The actual costs of Hepatitis B vaccination will be monitored during 19/20 to set a baseline for the FYE transfer of monies from April 2020.

The requirement for Hepatitis B vaccination for patients with CKD is set out in the following PHE publication: *Immunisation Against Infectious Disease: “The Green Book”* (1) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-the-green-book-chapter-18>

Immunisation against hepatitis B is recommended for patients already on haemodialysis or renal transplantation programmes and for other patients with chronic renal failure as soon as it is anticipated that they may require these interventions. The vaccines formulated for use in patients with chronic renal insufficiency should be used.” Public Health England Hepatitis B vaccination experts have issued Renal units



with some amended guidance to better align administration of vaccines with scheduled routine low clearance clinic appointments or scheduled dialysis sessions.

Providers are asked to

- Ensure that arrangements are in place to undertake Hepatitis B Vaccination as per PHE and Renal Association Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hepatitis-b-vaccine-for-renal-patients-patient-group-direction-template>

- Work with General Practice and Clinical Commissioning Groups to ensure the smooth transition of patients from primary care to secondary renal services, in particular those who may be in the middle of a course of vaccination.
- Renal Services will need to use the Blueteq system for the monitoring of Hepatitis B Vaccination starting and booster doses.

Thank you for your help with this work.

Yours sincerely,



**Medical Director & CCIO
South West Region**

