

Flu vaccination offer for children aged 2 or 3 years in Community Pharmacy

2025 to 2026 season

Training and Resources

V1.1 29 July 2025



Children aged 2 or 3 years* influenza vaccination offer from Community Pharmacies

To help support improvements in access and uptake, community pharmacies will be able to offer children aged 2 or 3 years flu vaccinations during the 2025 to 2026 flu season.

Community pharmacy service delivery will begin from 1 October 2025.

Details are set out in the [Amendment to the national flu immunisation programme 2025 to 2026 letter](#).

The requirements for the service are set out in the [service specification](#) and alongside this a separate patient group direction for community pharmacies to cover both the live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) and the cell-cultured inactivated influenza vaccine (IIVc) administration to this age group will be published.

To support preparation for providing this service, the following slides signpost to useful information, training and resources

Annual flu collection*

The [annual flu collection](#) provides resources to support the 2025 to 2026 seasonal flu programme. They include:

- [National flu immunisation programme slide set](#)
 - training for healthcare practitioners for the 2025 to 2026 season
- [Flu vaccination programme 2025 to 2026: information for healthcare practitioners](#)
 - key information about flu vaccination, updated with any new information that becomes available as the season progresses, additional information and advice on common issues
- [Flu immunisation e-learning programme](#) available free of charge via the e-Learning for Healthcare Hub (e-LfH), includes three modules:
 - Core knowledge for flu immunisers
 - Live flu vaccine
 - Inactivated flu vaccine
- [Flu vaccination for children: leaflets and posters](#)
 - webpage versions of patient information, links to order free printed materials such as leaflets, stickers, posters, and translated or accessible resources

*Some of these resources may not specifically refer to community pharmacies as providers of vaccination for 2 to 3 year olds as they were developed before this new service was launched. Some resources are in the process of being published and will be available shortly.

Further training

[National minimum standards for core curriculum for vaccination training](#) - mandatory for this service

- sets out the standards and includes a competency assessment tool (Appendix A)
- advises a blended approach to learning
 - links to e-learning modules and a training slide set are included in the [annual flu collection](#)
 - some training providers offer face to face training (classroom based or via an online platform)
 - local networks are encouraged to support community pharmacies to identify opportunities for peer support and experiential learning

[General immunisation \(IMM\) modules via e-LfH:](#)

- National immunisation policy and programmes, Immunology and types of vaccine, Vaccine preventable diseases, Communicating with patients, parents and carers, Legal Aspects, Vaccine Storage and Vaccine Administration

[Vaccination: Delivering High Quality Service](#)

- a programme from the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) to help develop the skills and knowledge to deliver safe, effective and person-centred vaccination services

[How to administer the Fluenz® nasal spray flu vaccine](#) – video providing information and guidance on how to administer the Fluenz® nasal spray flu vaccine (LAIV) to children



Further resources

[Green Book: Immunisation against infectious disease](#)

- latest information on vaccines and vaccination procedures for vaccine preventable infectious diseases in the UK
- Part 1: principles, practices and procedures, including [Chapter 2 Consent](#)
- Part 2: the diseases, vaccinations and vaccines, including [Chapter 19 Influenza](#)

[Quality criteria for an effective immunisation programme](#)

- defines the key elements for the implementation and delivery of a safe, equitable, high quality, effective and efficient immunisation service

[Vaccine incident guidance: responding to vaccine errors in vaccine storage, handling and administration](#)

- helps decide the appropriate response to vaccine incidents

[Vaccine update](#)

- a monthly vaccination newsletter for health professionals involved in immunisation which contains up to date information on flu and the other vaccination programmes

[Vaccines and porcine gelatine leaflet](#)

- describes how and why porcine gelatine is used in vaccines
- the first line flu vaccine choice for children is the LAIV as this is the most clinically effective vaccine to administer to this age group. IIVc is recommended where LAIV is contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable (for example, parents object to LAIV on the grounds of its porcine gelatine content).