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## MINI BULLETIN – 17 February 2021

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Over three quarters of **GPs fear** the COVID-19 Pandemic will leave them facing investigations triggered by factors outside their control, such as delayed referrals or disruption to services, a Poll shows.

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Over the weekend there was a [local vaccination services letter](#) which provided clarification on the position on **vaccinating children and young people on the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV)** list, and confirmed the arrangements around vaccinating the next two Cohorts (5 and 6).

PCN sites should focus their efforts on inviting Cohort 6, while Cohort 5 (those aged 65-69) will be receiving an invitation from the national booking service to attend a Vaccination Centre or Community Pharmacy setting.

The letter **also** includes details on delivering vaccinations in residential settings, such as Care Homes for people with learning disabilities or mental health problems, or Hostel/Hotel accommodation for the homeless, where it would not be possible for these patients to attend vaccination sites.

From 15 February onwards, a PCN grouping or Community Pharmacy contractor, will be able to claim an additional supplement of £10 for each vaccination administered to eligible residents and staff in these settings, on top of the £12.58 Item of Service fee.

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The **independent healthcare sector is included** in the immediate requirement to vaccinate frontline healthcare workers. All healthcare professions seeing and treating patients are eligible, such as independent Physiotherapists, Podiatrists and Midwives, and healthcare workers at larger organisations.

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With the **Easter Bank Holiday weekend** fast approaching, we wanted to confirm there are currently no plans to ask all of Primary Care (General Practice, Community Pharmacy, Dentistry and Optometry) to routinely open again. However, we continue to keep this position under review, subject to the changing demands of the Pandemic.

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NHS Digital is currently collecting data on **complaints regarding NHS Primary Care services** – collected annually via the KO41b return from GP and Dental Practices.

The data collection will stay open for 6 weeks until the 26 March. You can [respond to the consultation online](#).