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26<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Reference: NCO-28-24

## COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Update

Dear Doctor,

Thank you for your participation in the Spring Booster Vaccination Programme which concluded on 14<sup>th</sup> June. Spring boosters may still be given up to 30<sup>th</sup> June, after which patients should be advised that the spring programme has ended. For exceptional cases which may arise, please contact [immunisation@hse.ie](mailto:immunisation@hse.ie) for clinical advice.

The COVID-19 seasonal booster programme will pause over the summer months. During the summer pause, the following groups will still be eligible for COVID-19 vaccination:

- Primary course vaccination for those aged 6 months and older.
- Booster dose vaccination for pregnant women in the appropriate stage of pregnancy and where the appropriate time since last dose of vaccine has elapsed. Please refer to latest [NIAC recommendations](#) for COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy.

### **Summer Vaccination in General Practice**

It is important to ensure that individuals eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine over the summer months are able to avail of it when requested. GPs are advised, where possible, to maintain some vaccine stock to continue to provide COVID-19 vaccines to those aged 12 years and over who require primary course vaccination and pregnant women who require a booster dose.

HSE clinics will continue to be available for children aged under 12 years requiring primary course vaccination; parents can access information about clinics at <https://www2.hse.ie/services/covid-19-vaccination-centres/> or call HSE Live on 1800 700 700.

For full clinical information and details on recommended intervals, please refer to the [NIO clinical guidance](#).

If an eligible patient comes forward and you are not in a position to provide the vaccination, please advise them to call HSE Live on 1800 700 700 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm, and Saturday 9am to 5pm), for support in accessing a provider in their area.

### **Autumn campaign**

Further information with regards to any autumn COVID-19 boosters and the seasonal Flu campaign will be communicated in due course.



### **Removal of COVID-19 vaccine types**

The following COVID-19 product is no longer in use and will be removed from GP IT Systems effective from 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024;

- Comirnaty Original/Omicron BA.4-5 (COVID-19 Vaccine)

Any outstanding vaccine records and claims relating to the above product must be entered by 5pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 as it will not be possible to submit after this date.

Please also remember to return any out of date stock of both COVID-19 and Flu vaccine to NCCS using the normal process.

### **Conclusion**

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to General Practitioners and their teams for the efficient manner in which the Spring Booster Campaign has been delivered and for your ongoing commitment and support in the provision of COVID-19 Vaccinations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley', written over a horizontal line.

**Geraldine Crowley**  
**Assistant National Director**  
**Enhanced Community Care Programme &**  
**Primary Care Contract**