

South Central Strategic Health Authority
First Floor, Rivergate House
Newbury Business Park
London Road, Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 2PZ
01635 275500

Dear Colleague,

Re: South Central Childhood Immunisations Project

I am writing to let you know about a collaborative project currently underway across NHS South Central to help increase childhood immunisation rates. I have commissioned Collaborative Solutions, the project management section of the SHA to support this piece of work over the next few months.

As you may be aware the World Health Organisation has recommended that at least 95% of children should have completed routine immunisations by March 2011, in order to give adequate "herd immunity". All PCTs have plans in place to increase uptake and to achieve this target. However, it is apparent that there is considerable variability in methods and processes being used.

A collaborative and more uniform approach to overcoming current difficulties would appear to have significant benefits. For this reason Collaborative Solutions will be working with organisations across the region to develop pragmatic solutions which can be implemented in local areas.

The scope of this project is to develop a model for immunising children which:

- builds on existing best practice locally and nationally
- takes full advantage of available information systems to maximise uptake
- enables accurate data to be recorded and monitored effectively
- ensures appropriate and relevant training and updating of staff administering immunisations
- includes other interventions to increase uptake

A project Board with wide representation has been set up to oversee the project.

If you would like to have further information or would like to become involved in this work please contact either:

Sue Hallett, Project Consultant, Collaborative Solutions, South Central SHA at sue.hallett@southcentral.nhs.uk Tel 07825 448342

Ros Crowder, Consultancy Manager, Children & Young People, Collaborative Solutions, South Central SHA at ros.crowder@southcentral.nhs.uk Tel 07825 448269

I hope that you will agree that this is a highly worthwhile project and that you will be able to support this work in your own area as appropriate.



Professor John Newton
Regional Director of Public Health
South Central SHA

Distribution:

South Central PCTs:

- Directors of Public Health
- Medical Directors
- Primary Care Commissioners
- Immunisations Leads
- GP Practices – senior partner, practice manager and practice nurse lead
- Provider Organisations - CYP Lead managers for HV & School Nurses, Community Paediatricians

Directors of HPUs

TVPCA
HIOWPPSA

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire LMC
Hampshire & IOW LMC

Oxford Vaccine Group

Local Authorities:

- Directors of Children's Services
- Lead Member for CYP
- Children's Trust Chair

Acute Hospitals / FTs:

- CEO
- Director of Nursing
- Head of Midwifery

C.c Project Board members