Dear Dr English,

Use of adjuvanted influenza vaccine (aTIV) in those 65 and over

Thank you for your letter to our Medical Director Professor Stephen Powis about the new adjuvanted influenza vaccine (aTIV). He has asked me to respond on his behalf.

With PHE and the Department of Health we are currently reviewing the clinical evidence, including advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) and cost-effectiveness data from PHE in respect of influenza vaccines for 65 year olds and over and those in at risk groups who are under 65 years old.

We will provide definitive guidance to general practice and community pharmacies on influenza vaccine for the 2018/19 season on Monday 5th February, based on the latest clinical evidence.

We have today written to GPs and community pharmacies to advise that no further orders for influenza vaccine should be made and no provisional orders should be converted to confirmed orders until this national guidance is issued for adoption.

I hope that this provides assurance that NHS England considers this issue a priority. I would be happy to forward a copy of the guidance when it is issued on 5th February.

Yours sincerely,

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