

WELSH HEALTH CIRCULAR



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Title: Urgent polio catch-up programme for children under 5 years old

Date of Expiry / Review N/A

For Action by:

Immunisation Leads, Health Boards/Trusts
School nurses, Health Boards/Trusts
Chief Executives, Health Boards/Trusts
Medical Directors, Health Boards/Trusts
Nurse Executive Directors, Health Boards/Trusts
Directors of Public Health, Health Boards
Chief Executive, Public Health Wales
Executive Director of Public Health Services, Public Health Wales
Nurse Director, Public Health Wales
Head Vaccine Preventable Disease Programme, Public Health Wales
NHS Wales Informatics Service

For information to:

Directors of Workforce and Organisational Development
Finance Directors
Health Boards/Trusts
Directors of Primary, Community and Mental Health, Health Boards
Chief Pharmacists, Health Boards/Trusts
Chief Executive, Welsh Local Government Association
Director of Planning, NHS Delivery Unit
General Practitioners

Sender:

Sir Frank Atherton, Chief Medical Officer/Medical Director NHS Wales

HSSG Welsh Government Contact(s) :

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Dear Colleagues,

Urgent polio catch-up programme for children under 5 years old

I wrote to you on 24 October 2022 regarding an urgent polio catch-up programme for children under 5 years old, [Urgent polio catch-up programme for children under 5 years old \(WHC/2022/027\) | GOV.WALES](#). Since that time, I have become aware of some technical issues, regarding the data cleansing exercise which has caused some delay to the commencement of this programme. I am writing again therefore to extend the deadline for the catch-up programme until **31 March 2023**.

The data on unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children from Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW) will be available on the GP portals from w/c 21 November 2022. This data pull includes children who were 6 months or older from 1st January 2017, as at 31st October 2022. The data will remain on the portal until the end of the catch-up programme, 31st March 2023.

DHCW has produced a 'How do I?' guide, which will assist GPs and health boards in using the data. This will be available on the GP portal along with the data. DHCW will also provide the same data to health board child health departments.

I would remind health boards to monitor progress on the roll-out in order that the catch-up programme is delivered effectively and within the timeframe. Public Health Wales will, as usual, be available to assist health boards in this process. It is important that once the catch up is completed we evaluate the successes and challenges of this programme to inform future learning and our ongoing vaccination transformation in line with the National Immunisation Framework.

Yours sincerely



SIR FRANK ATHERTON