Review of measures for COVID-19 and flu vaccine programmes

News story

Temporary measures for COVID-19 and flu vaccine programme to be extended or made permanent through new consultation

- Regulations were amended on a temporary basis in autumn last year to scale up vaccine programme

A raft of temporary measures put in place at the height of the pandemic will be considered as the government launches a consultation today on proposals to maintain the pace and scale of the vaccine rollout.

The government is seeking views to make some measures permanent, and give others a further temporary period of operation, in order to continue to support the safe and effective roll out of the UK's influenza and COVID-19 vaccination and booster programmes.

These measures concern the authorisation, movement and sale of vaccines and have supported the successful vaccination programmes by:

- Increasing the available vaccinator workforce;
- Allowing vaccines to be moved between certain premises without the need for wholesale dealer licenses;
- Enabling final preparation and labelling to take place without additional marketing authorisations or manufacturer's licences; and
- Enabling pharmacies to run vaccination service from premises other than their registered premises.

Vaccines Minister Maggie Throup said:

> Over the past year, these temporary measures have helped enable the NHS to deliver over 120 million vaccines across this country.
>
> By bedding in this suite of options we can continue to make it quicker and easier for people to safely access COVID-19 and flu vaccines to protect themselves and the people around them.

A consultation is being launched today on the amendments made to the Human Medicine Regulations 2012 last year and will last three weeks.

The Human Medicine Regulations 2012 set out a comprehensive system for the authorisation of medicinal products; for the manufacture, import, distribution, sale and supply of those products; for their labelling and advertising; and for pharmacovigilance. They also provide for enforcement powers for the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products.

- Find the full consultation here

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