**COVID vaccination programme update from the GPC**

NHS England has [announced new changes to the previously published winter covid vaccination guidance](https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/nhs-vaccination-response-to-urgent-ba2-8/), as part of an ‘accelerated programme’. Following the earlier notification of a reduction to covid fee payments, there will now be time limited ‘accelerated payments’ offered to bring forward the covid vaccination programme to 11 September for completion by the end of October (this relates to the enhanced fees and vaccination can continue after 31 October, but at the reduced IoS fee of £7.54). NHSE guidance states:

*‘Vaccine providers will receive an additional payment of £10 (in addition to the Item of Service (IoS) fee) for each COVID-19 vaccination administered to care home residents between Monday 11 September and Sunday 22 October 2023 inclusive; and a separate one-off additional payment of £200 for each Completed Care Home by the end of the day on Sunday 22 October.*

*For other eligible groups, vaccine providers will receive an additional £5 acceleration payment (in addition to the IoS fee) will be made available for each COVID-19 vaccination administered to eligible people between 11 September and 31 October 2023’.*

In line with previous [BMA guidance](https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/covid-19/vaccines/covid-19-vaccination-programme), we continue to advise practices to consider and assure themselves of the financial viability of participating in the COVID vaccination programme under these shortened time frames. Practices will now have until 5pm on 4 September if they do wish to sign up for the programme. Read [my statement](https://www.bma.org.uk/bma-media-centre/increased-support-for-vaccination-service-welcome-but-general-practice-needs-more-says-bma) in response.

**Dr Samira Anane**

**Deputy Chair, GPC England**

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