

**From the Chief Medical Officer
Professor Sir Michael McBride**



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

www.health-ni.gov.uk

HSS(MD) 12/2026

FOR ACTION

Chief Executives, Public Health Agency/HSC Trusts/NIAS
Chief Operating Officer, SPPG
GP Medical Advisers, SPPG
All General Practitioners and GP Locums (for onward
distribution to practice staff) and Community Pharmacies
OOHs Medical Managers (for onward distribution to staff)

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Our Ref: HSS(MD) 12/2026

Date: 13 February 2026

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FULL CIRCULATION LIST

Dear Colleague

**MHRA DRUG SAFETY UPDATE: IXCHIQ Chikungunya vaccine: updates to
restrictions of use following safety review**

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued the below Drug Safety Update.

Healthcare Professionals are asked to note and action the advice for healthcare professionals and advice for healthcare professionals to provide to patients contained within the Drug Safety Update.

Please find the link to the complete **MHRA Drug Safety Update** included below:

[IXCHIQ Chikungunya vaccine: updates to restrictions of use following safety review](#)

Following the completion of a safety review and the recommendations of the Commission on Human Medicines (CHM), the IXCHIQ Chikungunya vaccine is no longer indicated for adults over the age of 60 years, and is contraindicated in all individuals with hypertension, cardiovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, and/or chronic kidney disease. This action follows very rare fatal reactions, and other serious adverse reactions reported globally last year. In addition, the CHM have advised that the IXCHIQ vaccine should be given no later than 30 days prior to travel.

Reporting advice

Healthcare professionals, patients, and caregivers are asked to submit reports using the Yellow Card scheme electronically using:

- the [Yellow Card website](#).
- the Yellow Card app; download from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#)
- some clinical IT systems for healthcare professionals

When reporting suspected adverse drug reactions, please provide as much information as possible, including information about medical history, any concomitant medication, onset timing, and treatment dates.

For queries or more information, please contact info@mhra.gov.uk.

You can subscribe to the MHRA Safety Roundup bulletin [here](#). The latest MHRA Safety Roundup is available at the following link: [MHRA Safety Roundup](#).

Yours sincerely



PROFESSOR SIR MICHAEL MCBRIDE
Chief Medical Officer



PROFESSOR CATHY HARRISON
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

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Director of Public Health/Medical Director, Public Health Agency (*for onward distribution to all relevant health protection staff*)

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