

# Vaccination Information



## Care homes

On 4 December, the Minister for Social Care [wrote to all local authorities and care](#) providers advising them on what to expect and what actions care homes could take in supporting NHS providers to deliver vaccinations to care home residents and staff. The Chair of the Social Care Sector, Medical Director of Primary Care, and Deputy Chief Medical Officer has also produced [this video](#) to answer questions about the vaccine for the care sector.

The steps here are for two purposes. Firstly, so that your staff can be part of the early wave to be vaccinated in Hospital Hubs, but secondly so that when the government can get a vaccine to homes, you'll be ready for it.

In preparation care home managers should:

- Familiarise themselves with the priority list (see below). Contact may come from a GP surgery for individual people based upon their risk or as a whole service approach.
- Be ready to provide each staff member with a letter confirming their employment in the care sector, consent forms and a data privacy notice.
- Put together staff lists, including basic details (name, gender, date of birth, NHS number, GP details) for each staff member. This information is contained on the consent form and may be requested in a localised format by the vaccination administering authority. Information will only be kept by the company for the purpose of vaccination and if not collected by vaccination administration authority during vaccination process, it will be destroyed after the administration.
- Keep staff records of vaccinations. This is a specific set of information to enable services to track who has been offered, consented and administered vaccination. From 12th January service users and staff vaccinations must be reported through the DRA (and report via the Capacity Tracker where relevant).
- Consider the covid-secure logistics of releasing staff to receive their vaccine, while maintaining staffing levels within their home.
- Take steps now to ensure that staff understand need for obtaining consent, so that they in turn can help residents and families to complete the necessary forms when a vaccine is ready to be delivered within a care home.
- Do not call the GP directly. Contact will be initiated by the GP/Local authority/CCG

You may want to start talking to residents and their families now about the vaccination. There is a standardised consent form, as you will need to gain consent to vaccinate. Consent forms should be kept available for the Vaccine Administrator.

## Eligible groups

You should have the vaccine when it is offered if you are:

- living in a care home for older adults
- a frontline health care worker
- **a frontline social care worker**
- a carer working in a care home for older residents

Then the vaccine will also be offered in age order to:

- those aged over 80 years
- those aged over 75 years
- those aged over 70 years
- adults on the NHS shielded patient list
- those aged over 65 years
- adults under 65 years with long term conditions (see conditions below)

Those aged 50 to 64 will be offered it later.

Clinical conditions list:

- a blood cancer (such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma)
- diabetes
- dementia
- a heart problem
- a chest complaint or breathing difficulties, including bronchitis, emphysema or severe asthma
- a kidney disease
- a liver disease
- lowered immunity due to disease or treatment (such as HIV infection, steroid medication, chemotherapy or radiotherapy)
- rheumatoid arthritis, lupus or psoriasis
- have had an organ transplant
- had a stroke or a transient ischaemic attack (TIA)
- a neurological or muscle wasting condition
- a severe or profound learning disability
- a problem with your spleen, example sickle cell disease, or you have had your spleen removed
- are seriously overweight (BMI of 40 and above)
- are severely mentally ill

At the same time as the adults under 65 years with long term conditions the vaccine will also be offered to:

- adults who provide regular care for an elderly or disabled person
- younger adults in long stay nursing and residential settings

Please wait your turn. If you are not in the groups above, you will have to wait for a COVID-19 vaccination until more supplies are available. When the priority groups have been vaccinated, we will be offering it to more groups of the population.

Operational Managers and support function staff who attend services should also be viewed as “Front Line” staff. Where a manager/support function may be required to visit services in the course of their role, or provide back up support to services, they should attach themselves to a service to access the vaccination.

Useful Links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-30-december-2020/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-advice-on-priority-groups-for-covid-19-vaccination-30-december-2020>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/standard-operating-procedure-covid-19-local-vaccination-services-deployment-in-community-settings/>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/guidance-for-covid-19-vaccination-in-care-homes-that-have-cases-and-outbreaks/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-social-care-staff/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-social-care-staff>

### **Children’s services – wider context**

We have highlighted 2 groups in the priority list and although there isn’t any official clarity about who these 2 categories exactly cover, the NHS planning and PHE assumptions are that this is mainly people in CQC registered care homes in England and those will also be triaged both by service and staff with older people’s services first.

It might be that **once the primary care hubs start** at speed next week that there may be some ability for health and social care worker to register and this may get some priority along with age, but that hasn’t been agreed yet.

Following PM briefing on the 5<sup>th</sup> January, it has been confirmed again that there is no intention to vaccinate children and all vaccines will be on clinical and public health risk. This means that it’s unlikely that we will see children’s homes included at this stage.

We are very aware ICHA raised this as a concern, but no further clarification or confirmation of change of direction in relation to the priority groups have been issued as of yet.

However, our schools, colleges and residential services attached to these may fall into the second cohort post April, again this has not yet been confirmed,

The PHE advice from 31st Dec is latest on the priority groups – you can find this [here](#). All the categories - 1 to 9 are the priority one groups and aim is to have 1 to 3 completed by Feb and remaining five by April for first vaccine with second vaccine by latest June.

There will then be by descending age bands all other groups down to 16 years.

### **A visual end-to-end journey for care homes**

