

Covid-19 Vaccine – for care home staff – 04.01.21



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Webinar Tips

- Please put your microphone on mute
- You can ask questions via the chat box
- Slides will be circulated
- There will be time for questions at the end



What we cover today

- Information about the Covid-19 vaccines
- How it is being delivered in north London for care staff
- Other resources and reading where you can find out more about the Covid-19 vaccine.
- Current pressures in north London



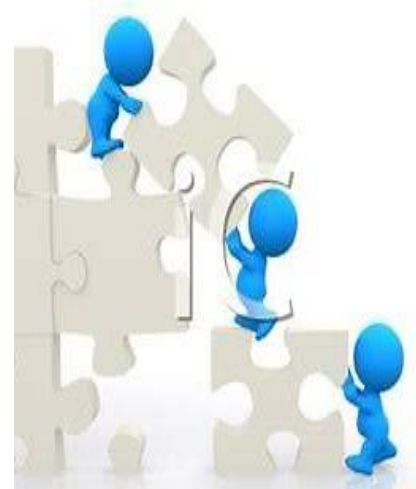


Vaccination is one of your most effective defences against COVID-19

Are the vaccines safe for me to take?

In the UK we have several organisations that all ensure medicine and vaccines are safe to use. They are called

- Medicine and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)
- Commission on Human Medicine
- The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI)



Currently the **Pfizer/BioNTech** and the **Oxford/AstraZeneca** covid-19 vaccines have been approved by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

Medicine and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

Their role is to ensure public safety regarding medicine and medical technologies. They regulate and authorise medicine before being available for public use.

This means that MHRA oversees and ensured that the clinical trials of these medicines are robust and thorough enough to ensure public safety. They also go one step further by checking the integrity of the medicine by making sure they are manufactured and delivered with the same quality and safety as they were tested.



Medicines &
Healthcare products
Regulatory Agency

The Medicine and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency agreed the safety of the vaccine.

The Medicine and Healthcare products Regulatory agency, started reviewing data on covid-19 vaccine since May 2020. They have reviewed

- Lab results
- Safety and effectiveness
- Clinical trails in humans
- Manufacturing and quality controls
- Product sampling
- Testing of the final product



The Medicine and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency agreed the safety of the vaccine.

- The vaccine has been through 3 phases of clinical trials. In the third phase it was given to more than 21,000 volunteers with no serious safety concerns.
- At your vaccine appointment you will speak to a clinician who will check **that you are suitable to receive the vaccine and can answers any that questions that you might have.**



Commission on Human Medicine



- Their role is to assess all the data before advising the UK government on safety, quality and effectiveness.
- Advising on applications for both national and European marketing authorisations
- Advising on the need for and content of risk management for new medicine
- Advising on the impact of new safety issues on the balance of risks and benefits of licensed medicines - e.g. adding warnings, restricting or suspending use of a medicine

A monumental effort

Covid-19 is a public health crisis.

We saw unprecedented

- Resource
- Funding
- Collaboration



That is why we are seeing vaccine projects move at a much faster pace than we usually do.

You may find this video useful to explain how the vaccine trial moved so quickly:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddDiyIKUP0M>

The Joint committee on vaccination and Immunisation

Is an independent expert advisory committee that advises UK health departments on immunisation making recommendations concerning vaccination schedules and vaccines.

When formulating their advice and recommendations, they take into account the need and impact of vaccines, quality and strategies to ensure the benefit to public health can be obtained from the most appropriate use of the vaccine.

It has a statutory role in England and Wales, and health departments in Scotland and Northern Ireland may choose to accept its advice.

They developed the priority order for the Covid-19 vaccine in England.



Why are social Care staff and residents getting vaccinated first?

- The independent Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advises that the first priorities for any COVID-19 vaccine should be prevention of people dying and the protection of health and social care staff.
- Older people living in care homes have been affected by COVID-19 more than other groups, therefore the JCVI has recommended that they are the highest priority.
- As frontline staff you are more at risk of being exposed to Covid-19
- Over 80's are also being vaccinated.

With high rates of COVID-19, it's more important than ever to help stop the spread of coronavirus.



- For more on the priority list: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-2-december-2020>

Why should I have the vaccine?

Having the vaccine offers immunity, to protect you from COVID-19. The more people that have the vaccine, the more it will help to protect those most vulnerable in our communities such as care home residents.

Care Staff are at increased personal risk of getting COVID-19 due to their work
If care home staff get COVID-19 they are at risk of passing it on to residents
The more people that get vaccinated, the more we can protect the most vulnerable people including your own family

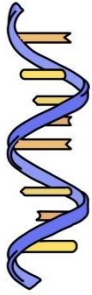
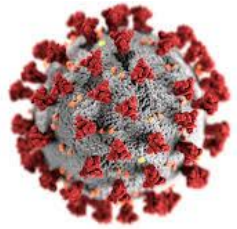


Why should the people I support have the vaccine?

- People that need social care services are more likely to become seriously unwell and more likely from to die from COVID-19 due to their age and underlying health conditions
- Care home residents are at higher risk of getting COVID-19 due to the environment that they live in



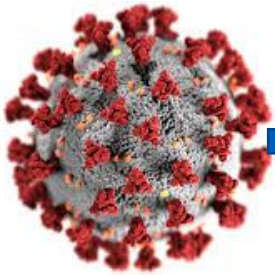
How does the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine work?



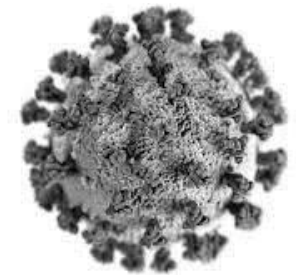
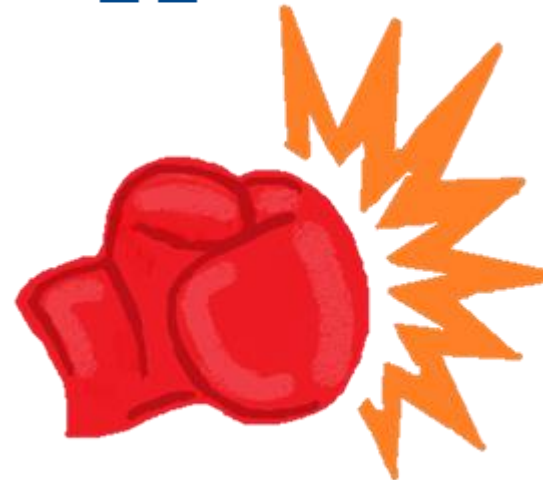
The scientist takes part of the virus to make the vaccine. This part of the virus **cannot** give you COVID-19



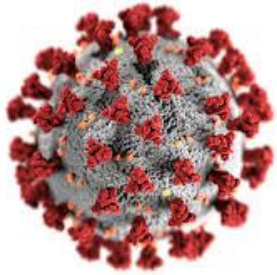
Once injected the immune system produces **virus fighters** called antibodies and T-Cells



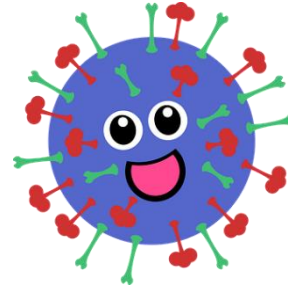
If you come into contact with COVID-19. The **virus fighters** (anti-bodies and T-Cells) remember it and can fight it



How does the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine work



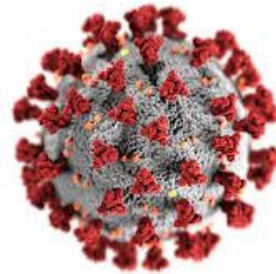
Instructions on how to make the protein found on the surface of the COVID-19 virus



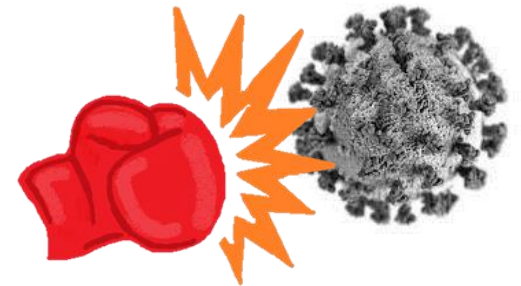
Are added to a **safe virus** to make the vaccine



Once injected the vaccine stimulates your immune system to produce **virus fighters** called anti-bodies and T-Cells



If you come into contact with COVID-19. The **virus fighters** (anti-bodies and T-Cells) can fight it



You can find a video about the Oxford vaccine here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUTRaOOblI8&feature=youtu.be&app=desktop>

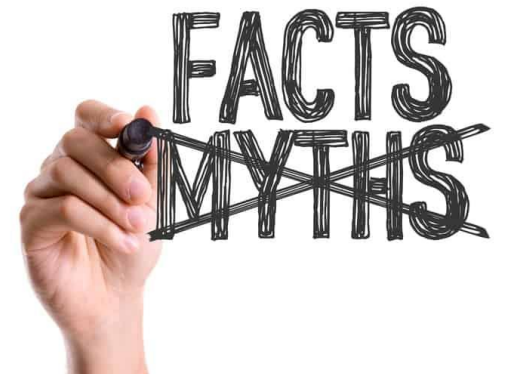
Do I have to have the Vaccine?

- **No** you have the right to refuse
- Vaccines are not mandatory in the UK
- However we would encourage all staff to read information from credible sources to make an informed decision.



Will the vaccine give me covid-19?

- **NO** – you cannot catch Covid-19 from the vaccine, It is not a live vaccine therefore you would not be injected with the actual virus.
- It is possible you may have caught Covid-19 before being vaccinated and not realise until after you had the vaccine.
- If you have symptoms of covid-19 then you should self isolate and get a test



I have already had Covid-19, so do I still need the vaccine?

Experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from Covid-19. Evidence suggests natural immunity may not last long so there is a risk of getting re-infected with Covid-19 again.

Therefore it is vital to have the vaccine even if you have already been infected with Covid-19



Truth about the vaccine

You may have seen some false information about the vaccine on the internet.
The below statements are **truths** about the vaccine

The vaccine **does not** contain microchips

The vaccine only has what it needs to produce the fighting cells and thing to make it safe, able to be delivered and able to be stored.
Nothing goes into a vaccine unless it is absolutely needed

The vaccine **does not** alter your DNA

The vaccine only gets you to produce an immune response – the virus fighters

The vaccine **was developed** by taking part of the virus, **not** in an aborted male foetus

Vaccines are developed by taking parts of the vaccine itself. The parts of the virus in the vaccine cannot reproduce in your body and cannot give you COVID-19

The vaccine trials **were not** just in Africa

The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine trials were in the United States, Europe, Turkey, South Africa, and South America.
The Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine trials were in the UK, Brazil and South Africa

Care homes **are not** being used a Guinea pigs

Care home residents and staff are high priority to receive the vaccine due to the risk they have of COVID-19

Are you pregnant, planning for a baby or breast feeding should I have the vaccine ?

- The vaccine has been shown to be effective and no safety concerns were seen in studies of more than 20,000 people. **However**, this did not include woman who were pregnant, planning for a baby or breastfeeding.
- The current advice is ask your GPs advice, but If you are pregnant or planning on getting pregnant within the next three months you should **NOT** be vaccinated as there is no published evidence/data yet to support its use in pregnancy.



Side effects

Like all vaccines Covid-19 vaccine can cause side effects, although not everyone will get them

There is a coronavirus yellow card reporting site, <https://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk> where health professionals and people that have had the vaccine can report any side effects.

Most side effects are mild or moderate and go within a few days of appearing, they can be treated with medicine for pain and fever such as paracetamol

Very common may affect more than 1 in 10 people

- Pain at the injection site
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Joint pain
- Fever



Side effects

Common side effects may effect up to 1 in 10 people

- Injection site swelling
- Redness at the injection site
- Nausea

Uncommon side effects may effect up to 1 in 100 people

Enlarged lymph nodes.

Feeling unwell



A high temperature is not a typical reaction and may indicate that you have covid-19 or another infection.

Covid-19 vaccine and people prescribed anticoagulants

- **Individuals receiving direct oral anticoagulant (apixaban, dabigatran, edoxaban & rivaroxaban) or warfarin in therapeutic INR range or on full dose heparin or fondaparinux injections can all receive the COVID-19 vaccination**
- There is an increased risk of bruising at the injection site but no anticipated and serious effects related to anticoagulation
- After the injection prolonged pressure (at least 5 minutes) should be applied to the injection site to reduce bruising
- People on warfarin with supra-therapeutic INR should wait until their INR is <4.0
- We encourage patients to have vaccinations and they should not be avoided on the basis of being on anticoagulation
- People with inherited bleeding disorders such as Haemophilia need to seek advice from their own Haemophilia Centre to ensure they receive the vaccine safely

Whilst the vaccine will make us safer...

It's important to remember:

- No vaccine is 100% effective
- We do not know how long protection will last
- We do not know whether people that have been vaccinated can still carry and pass on the virus.

The vaccine is just one tool in our tool box to prevent COVID-19

Preventing outbreaks

Therefore we need to:

- Continue to wear PPE
- Continue to follow infection prevention control guidance
- Continue with testing
- Continue to follow guidance if anyone has symptoms COVID-19



You have all worked incredibly hard to prevent outbreaks and to protect residents so we want to emphasise this point.

The NCL Covid-19 care provider pack has lots of useful info:

<https://northcentrallondonccg.nhs.uk/my-health/covid-19/care-homes-support-and-guidance/>

Roll out of the vaccine in North London

We will use different delivery models for the vaccine:

- **Hospital sites** – c. 7 in place
- **Primary Care** – c. 15 in place
- **Large public sites** - tbc
- **Roving model** to care homes and housebound residents – pilots with c. 15 homes – expect to expand shortly with Oxford Astra Zeneca
- Bookings are managed via local borough contacts. The NHS has set these up at pace so there are various booking systems at different sites.
- Top priorities are bedded care residents and staff, over 80's and then NHS and wider social care staff



What we ask of managers



Registered managers are asked to:

- Put together staff lists – including your bank/ agency staff, record basic details (name, gender, date of birth, NHS number, GP details) for each staff member (with their consent). If you don't have your NHS number the vaccine hubs can find this out, as long as your details with your GP are up to date
- Be ready to provide each staff member with a letter confirming their employment in the care sector – or they can use a photographic ID badge
- Keep a record of all you staff who have been vaccinated.
- For care home managers report via the Capacity Tracker (as you do with flu vaccination) when this launches.

What we ask of managers

- Consider the Covid-secure logistics of releasing staff to receive their vaccine, while maintaining staffing levels within their home.
- Staff can access the vaccine during their paid hours or in their own time (for which they should be paid).
- In north London we want staff to be paid for their time to receive the vaccine. We ask care providers to use
 - IPC funding, where you have this available
 - If not, we will find another source of funding – so please keep a record of where staff have had the vaccine

What we ask of managers

- **Managers may want to book on for the vaccine to set an example as leaders in the sector.**
- We would love to feature photos or videos of you or staff having the vaccine – please tweet them to us: **@ProudtocareL** or send them to ProudToCare@camden.gov.uk
- We would encourage you to talk to staff about the vaccine this could be in
 - A group setting at a staff meeting (covid-19 secure)
 - 1.1 meeting
- **Please share all the resources and slides if helpful for staff to make an informed decision**

Preparing residents

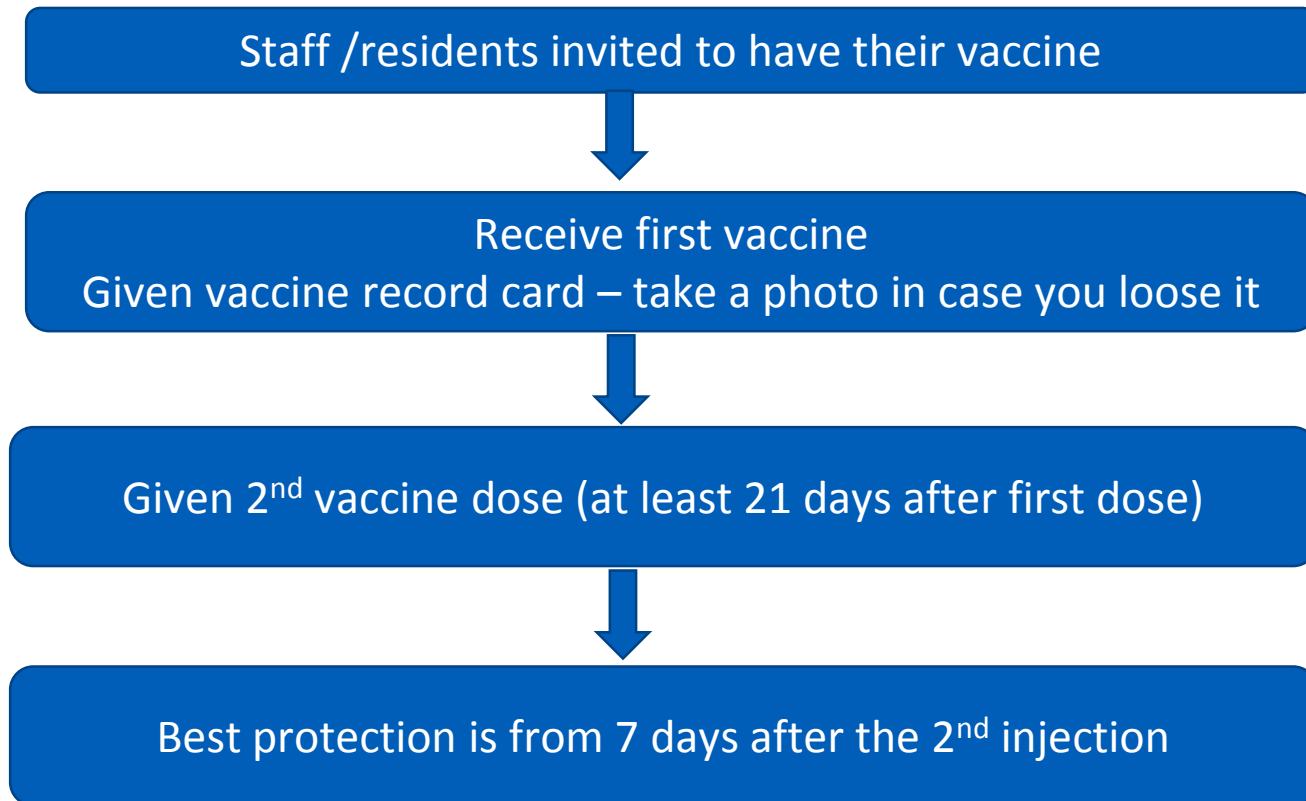
We have started vaccinating residents and staff in some bedded care settings. We expect this to scale up quickly so we ask you to prepare.

- Talk to residents and those important to them about the vaccine – you might want to include information about the vaccine in newsletters to relatives (feel free to copy information from this pack)
- Start the consent process – including capacity assessments, consent from Power of Attorney and best interest decisions
- The consent forms and letters can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-consent-forms-and-letters-for-care-home-residents>
- Your local council and NHS colleagues will talk to you about the process and progress with the consent process.
- If you are managing an outbreak when you are due to have a vaccination visit the NHS, Council and home manager will work together to risk assess whether it can go ahead safely.

Process to book

The specific details e.g. bookings are arranged **locally via your Council.**

In summary



Learning in NCL so far

On Thursday 10th of December 2020, Louise Keane had the Covid-19 vaccine

Here are some of her top tips:

- Book quickly – there are far more people in the priority categories that want the vaccine than the supply – slots are being taken in hours not days
- Please take something that shows you're employed in the care sector such as an **ID badge** or a **letter from your manager** confirming you're an employee
- If you take your **NHS number** this will make the process quicker – if not you need to know your GP and address (and these details need to be up to date)
- There are a few forms to fill in so the process generally takes up to half an hour
- Give yourself lots of time (30 mins for the appointment)
- Bring a pen
- Staff then give you a card and date to return for the second vaccine.

Please do not share the booking details with anyone beyond your care home

Look out for Louise's blog on the Proud to Care website about the vaccine

<https://www.proudtocarenorthlondon.org.uk/vaccinationfaq>



Current pressures in north London

This wave of covid has been particularly severe and is on top of usual winter pressures. We now have more people in acute beds than in the first wave and our hospitals are severely struggling for capacity; the number of outbreaks in care settings and other community settings, such as schools is steadily increasing. Care providers have provided excellent care in the face of covid-19 so far, however, given the level of pressure currently we are asking all providers to think about how they can help further.

- Review IPC arrangements and ensure staff attend the webinars
<https://northcentrallondonccg.nhs.uk/my-health/covid-19/infection-prevention-and-control/>
- Support timely admissions – try to accept admissions on the day and at weekends – talk to your Council if you’re close to achieving this, but need support
- Promote vaccinations with staff and residents
- Monitor residents vital signs and soft signs and work with your GP and other health professionals when you need support
- Look after each other – see the health and wellbeing pack and wider advice at:
<https://northcentrallondonccg.nhs.uk/my-health/covid-19/care-homes-support-and-guidance/>

Further reading

- Letter to care homes: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccinations-and-care-homes-programme-launch/covid-19-vaccinations-and-care-homes-programme-launch>
- PHE COVID-19 vaccination [patient leaflet](#)
- Public Health England COVID-19 vaccine [health and social care worker leaflet](#)
- Leaflet what to expect [after your COVID-19 vaccinations](#)
- Pfizer vaccine [patient information leaflet](#)
- Consent [forms and letters](#) – residents with capacity, Power of Attorney and best interest decisions
- General vaccine fact sheets, which can be downloaded [here](#)
- Download a zip file which has short videos (designed for social media) about the JvCI, what vaccines are, and the oxford vaccine [here](#)
- Video about the Oxford vaccine can be viewed [here](#)
- Video on [how the vaccine was made so quickly](#)

Thank you any questions?

