

## Flu - Eligible groups for NHS vaccination

All people aged 65 years or over including those becoming age 65 years by 31 March 2021.

People aged from 18 years to less than 65 years of age with one or more serious medical condition(s) outlined below:

	Chronic (long term) respiratory disease, such as severe asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or bronchitis	Asthma that requires continuous or repeated use of inhaled or systemic steroids or with previous exacerbations requiring hospital admission. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) including chronic bronchitis and emphysema; bronchiectasis, cystic fibrosis, interstitial lung fibrosis, pneumoconiosis and bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD).
	Chronic heart disease, such as heart failure	Congenital heart disease, hypertension with cardiac complications, chronic heart failure, individuals requiring regular medication and/or follow-up for ischaemic heart disease.
	Chronic kidney disease stage 3, 4 or 5	Chronic kidney disease at stage 3, 4 or 5, chronic kidney failure, nephrotic syndrome, kidney transplantation.
	Chronic liver disease	Cirrhosis, biliary atresia, chronic hepatitis.
	Chronic neurological disease, such as Parkinson's disease or motor neurone disease or  Learning disability	Stroke, transient ischaemic attack (TIA). Conditions in which respiratory function may be compromised due to neurological disease (e.g. polio syndrome sufferers). Immunisation should be offered, based on individual assessment, to clinically vulnerable individuals including those with cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, multiple sclerosis and related or similar conditions; or hereditary and degenerative disease of the nervous system or muscles; or severe neurological disability.
	Diabetes	Type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes requiring insulin or oral hypoglycaemic drugs, diet-controlled diabetes.
	Immunosuppression, a weakened immune system due to disease (such as HIV/AIDS) or treatment (such as cancer treatment)	Immunosuppression due to disease or treatment, including patients undergoing chemotherapy leading to immunosuppression, bone marrow transplant, HIV infection at all stages, multiple myeloma or genetic disorders affecting the immune system (e.g. IRAK-4, NEMO, complement disorder).  Individuals treated with or likely to be treated with systemic steroids for more than a month at a dose equivalent to prednisolone at 20mg or more per day. Some immune-compromised patients may have a suboptimal immunological response to the vaccine.
	Splenic dysfunction or asplenia	This also includes conditions such as homozygous sickle cell disease and coeliac syndrome that may lead to splenic dysfunction
	Morbid obesity	Adults with a Body Mass Index $\geq 40\text{kg/m}^2$
	Pregnant women (including those who become pregnant during the flu season)	Pregnant women aged 18 or over at any stage of pregnancy (first, second or third trimesters).
<b>NEW</b>	<b>Household contacts of those on the NHS Shielded Patient List</b>	<b>People who are household contacts, aged 18 and over, specifically individuals who expect to share living accommodation on most days over the winter and, therefore, for whom continuing close contact is unavoidable.</b>

People living in long-stay residential care homes or other long-stay care facilities	Vaccination is recommended where rapid spread is likely and cause high morbidity and mortality. This does not include prisons, young offender institutions, or university halls of residence.
Carers	People in receipt of a carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an older or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill.
Household contacts of immunocompromised individuals	People who are household contacts of immunocompromised individuals, specifically individuals who expect to share living accommodation on most days over the winter and, therefore, for whom continuing close contact is unavoidable.
Social care workers	Health & social care staff, employed by a registered residential care/nursing home or registered domiciliary care provider, who are directly involved in the care of vulnerable patients/clients who are at increased risk from exposure to influenza.
Hospice workers	Health and care staff, employed by a voluntary managed hospice provider, who are directly involved in the care of vulnerable patients/clients who are at increased risk from exposure to influenza.
Workers employed through Direct Payments and/or Personal Health Budgets to deliver domiciliary care	Health and social care workers employed through Direct Payments and/or Personal Health Budgets to deliver domiciliary care to patients and service users.

Please note that flu vaccination for people aged 50 to 64 who are **not** in an at risk group will not be made available until November at the earliest, and then only if there is sufficient vaccine. This is to ensure that those who are most at risk are vaccinated first. You should not invite nor vaccinate people in this age group until advised to do so on the NHS service. Please continue to invite and vaccinate those in at risk groups aged 50 to 64 as normal.