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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | Daily Update | | Friday 23rd April 2021 | | |  | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | |  | This daily update contains important information for community pharmacy teams about the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.   |  | | --- | | In today's update: C-19 therapeutic alert; Oxford/AZ vaccine advice update and patient study; C-19 vacs and pregnancy. **Below is a round-up of recent COVID-19 related guidance and news that is relevant to community pharmacy.**  **Inhaled Budesonide for adults with C-19** A Central Alert System (CAS) alert was issued earlier this month containing guidance for prescribers in primary care and community pharmacies in relation to the therapeutic use of inhaled budesonide in adults (50 years and over) with COVID-19. This is the first COVID-19 treatment for use in the UK within a community setting.  This product is not currently recommended as a standard of care, but it can be considered for off-label use for symptomatic COVID-19 positive patients aged 65 and over, or aged 50 or over with co-morbidities.  [**Read the C-19 Therapeutic Alert**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=9775427d17&e=12757307a1)  **Oxford/AZ vaccine: updated advice and patient study** Following a thorough review into reports of a very rare type of blood clot in the brain, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is advising that everybody who has already had a first dose of the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine should receive a second dose of the same brand, irrespective of age, except for the very small number of people who experienced blood clots with low platelet counts from their first vaccination.  [**Learn more about the MHRA advice**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=1e1500511d&e=12757307a1)  Additionally, pharmacy teams are asked to encourage patients who have had the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine to participate in a safety study. If possible, a poster about the study should be displayed in their pharmacy and then highlighted to any patients they know have received the AstraZeneca vaccine.   [**Find out more and download the poster**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=7043734e8c&e=12757307a1) **New advice on COVID-19 vaccination for pregnant women** Earlier this week, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) issued new advice which says that pregnant women should be offered the COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as the rest of the population, based on their age and clinical risk group. The JCVI advises that it is preferable for them to be offered the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines where available.  [**Read more about the JCVI advice on C-19 vaccination for pregnant women**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=cf59982be0&e=12757307a1) |   **Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page:**[**psnc.org.uk/coronavirus**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b671e78d7a&e=d3dc5e7fbd) |  | | |
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