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Joined Up Care
Derbyshire

Stakeholder Bulletin

16 April 2021

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Derby and Derbyshire stakeholder bulletin #52



Dear partners

We were saddened to hear on Friday that HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, had passed away. As a mark of respect we did not issue our weekly bulletin as scheduled and this week we have focused on Covid related issues. On behalf of colleagues across the NHS in Derby and Derbyshire, we send our condolences to the Royal Family at this difficult time.

A possible link between the COVID-19 Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine and extremely rare blood clots dominated the news last week. Last Wednesday (7.4.21), the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) issued new advice, concluding a possible link between the COVID-19 Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine and extremely rare, unlikely to occur blood clots. They also said that the benefits of vaccination continue to outweigh any risks. Similarly, European Medicines Agency's safety committee (PRAC) concluded that unusual blood clots with low blood platelets should be listed as very rare side effects of Vaxzevria (formerly COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca) but confirmed that the overall benefit-risk remains positive. Below we link to more information on this issue so you can get the facts of the matter and feel confident when it comes to making your decision.

Ramadan is now underway with Muslims observing a month-long period of fasting, prayer, reflection and community. The British Islamic Medical Association has confirmed that having the COVID-19 vaccine (which does not contain components of animal origin) does not invalidate the fast during the holy month of Ramadan. If you're observing Ramadan and you are invited to get your vaccine, or you have a second

...second dose in, please take it as the second dose helps to provide longer term protection.

With best wishes and please do stay safe.

Chris

Chris Clayton
Accountable Officer and Chief Executive
NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG

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National updates on Covid-19

[UK vaccine rollout 'breaking link' between infections and death](#)

[AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine: Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency says benefits of vaccination continue to outweigh any risks](#)

[AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine: European Medicines Agency confirms overall benefit-risk remains positive](#)

See also:

[AstraZeneca vaccine: How do you weigh up the risks and benefits?](#)

[Blood clot victim's sister urges people to get AstraZeneca vaccine](#)

[Under-30s offered alternative to AstraZeneca jab](#)

[People 45 or over in England invited to book vaccine](#)

['Mix and match' UK Covid vaccine trial expanded](#)

[Why the vaccine alone won't rid us of Covid](#)

[Covid lockdown eases](#)

[Covid biggest NHS challenge since World War Two, says NHS boss](#)

[Tests to be offered twice-weekly to all in England](#)

[BBC video content in five South Asian languages \(Urdu, Punjabi, Tamil, Sylheti and Gujarati\)](#)

[Click here](#) to download lots of useful information about the pandemic, including vaccines and the roadmap out of lockdown.

Statistics

UK Summary | Data from <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk>

The [national release of vaccination statistics by the NHS on Thursday](#), indicates that Derbyshire continues to vaccinate people at a good pace.

Covid-19 update for Derby and Derbyshire

Current situation

There are now fewer COVID-19 patients in our hospitals than at any time since September. This comes as the nation is proceeding through the lockdown-easing roadmap, with the reopening of non-essential shops, pubs and restaurants on Monday (12.4.21) after months of mandatory closure.

While the overall numbers are not alarming it serves as a reminder that we must continue to be on our guard as we move towards the next milestone on the roadmap - the planned return of indoor mixing and foreign travel from 17 May.

The vaccination programme and people's continued efforts with following the national guidance have put us in a strong position and that's why it is so important for people to keep to all current guidelines. This will give us the best chance of seeing those numbers continue to fall, remain low and enable the cautious lifting of restrictions to continue. We will keep a close watching brief as the lockdown gets eased further.

COVID-19 vaccination programme

Recent efforts have been focusing on delivering second doses and encouraging people in cohorts 1-9 who haven't yet been vaccinated to take up the offer. While the overall uptake is high we continue to work incredibly hard to encourage as many people as possible to take up the offer.

On Tuesday 13 April, NHS England confirmed that a phased start can begin for cohort 10, meaning that the COVID-19 vaccination can now be offered to those aged 45-49 years.

With Ramadan now underway, the Muslim community is being urged to not delay having their COVID-19 vaccine during the holy month. The British Islamic Medical Association has confirmed that the vaccine will not invalidate the fast.

[Ramadan Safety Guidance - endorsed by the Muslim Council of Britain](#)

If you already have an appointment over the coming weeks, whether for your first or second dose, this remains in place and it's really important that you attend it as planned. If you are no longer able to attend your appointment please let the venue know so they can make your slot available to somebody else.

[Other useful links related to the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Derby and Derbyshire:](#)

[British Islamic Medical Association debunks COVID myths](#)

[Helpful information for people with a learning disability](#)

[Community Representatives' Communication Toolkit](#)

[Video and leaflet to help patients understand what to expect when they go for their COVID-19 vaccination](#)

Tackling misinformation – See: [SHARE checklist](#) and this [5-minute game](#)

[Vaccination statistics published every Thursday](#)

[Vaccination Frequently Asked Questions and the latest local information](#)

Protect the capacity of our health and care services

- Follow the [national guidance](#) on restrictions
- [Download](#) the NHS COVID-19 app
- Isolate if ill
- Wash hands regularly
- Wear a face covering when required
- Maintain a safe social distance as appropriate

What you can do to help

Help us to save lives by reinforcing key messages in this bulletin with your key contacts. This should include the updated Government message to stay alert to stay safe. Please use your social media accounts to share only official messages from Government and NHS websites and accounts as there is a lot of misinformation about coronavirus being shared online.

Download previous editions of this bulletin

You can download previous editions of this bulletin [here](#).

Contact

If you have any feedback, or questions, please email us at: ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net.

Disclaimer:

While every effort has been made to ensure the contents of this bulletin are accurate and up-to-date you will appreciate that the situation relating to the coronavirus pandemic can change rapidly and so NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG do not accept any responsibility of any omission as it is not deliberate. Nevertheless, we will appreciate provision of accurate information to improve our work. Where links are provided to external content, NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG holds no responsibility for such content or accuracy.