

Appendix A: Groups included in the national flu immunisation programme

1. In 2020/21, flu vaccinations will be offered under the NHS flu vaccination programme to the following groups:
 - all children aged two to eleven (but not twelve years or older) on 31 August 2020
 - people aged 65 years or over (including those becoming age 65 years by 31 March 2021)
 - those aged from six months to less than 65 years of age, in a clinical risk group such as those with:
 - chronic (long-term) respiratory disease, such as severe asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or bronchitis
 - chronic heart disease, such as heart failure
 - chronic kidney disease at stage three, four or five
 - chronic liver disease
 - chronic neurological disease, such as Parkinson's disease or motor neurone disease,
 - learning disability
 - diabetes
 - splenic dysfunction or asplenia
 - a weakened immune system due to disease (such as HIV/AIDS) or treatment (such as cancer treatment)
 - morbidly obese (defined as BMI of 40 and above)
 - all pregnant women (including those women who become pregnant during the flu season)
 - household contacts of those on the NHS [Shielded Patient List](#), or of immunocompromised individuals, specifically individuals who expect to share living accommodation with a shielded patient on most days over the winter and therefore for whom continuing close contact is unavoidable
 - people living in long-stay residential care homes or other long-stay care facilities where rapid spread is likely to follow introduction of infection and cause high morbidity and mortality. This does **not** include, for instance, prisons, young offender institutions, university halls of residence, or boarding schools (except where children are of primary school age or secondary school Year 7).
 - those who are in receipt of a carer's allowance, or who are the main carer of an older or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill
 - health and 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.

- 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.
 - health and social care workers employed through Direct Payments (personal budgets) and/or Personal Health Budgets, such as Personal Assistants, to deliver domiciliary care to patients and service users.
2. Additionally, in 2020/21, flu vaccinations might be offered under the NHS flu vaccination programme to the following groups:
 - individuals between 50-64 years, following prioritisation of other eligible groups and subject to vaccine supply
 3. Organisations should vaccinate all frontline health and social care workers, in order to meet their responsibility to protect their staff and patients and ensure the overall safe running of services.
 4. The list above is not exhaustive, and the healthcare professional should apply clinical judgement to take into account the risk of flu exacerbating any underlying disease that a patient may have, as well as the risk of serious illness from flu itself.
 5. Healthcare practitioners should refer to the influenza chapter in 'Immunisation against infectious disease' (the "Green Book") for further detail about clinical risk groups advised to receive flu immunisation and for full details on advice concerning contraindications and precautions for the flu vaccines. This can be found at:
www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book