Q. Can I be vaccinated if I have had a severe allergy?

The Pfizer vaccine is not recommended for people who have had anaphylaxis (severe allergic reaction) to drugs, vaccines or food. It is still recommended when there is a history of allergy without anaphylaxis, but this would be discussed with you. Every person attending for vaccination will be asked.

If you cannot have the Pfizer vaccine, you will be added to a wait list for the Astra-Zeneca vaccine.

Q. Do I have a choice about what COVID vaccine I’ll receive?

The vaccine you will be offered will be dependent largely on the supplies available from the manufacturers and the logistics of the roll out of the COVID vaccine programme.

Q. Which of the COVID vaccines is best for people with PID?

Both the Pfizer/BioNTech and Oxford-AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccine have been found to be safe and offer good protection. But, we do not yet know how effective these vaccines might be for people with primary immunodeficiency. See details of a research study to investigate this PID UK - COVID-19 research update

See our statement on vaccines for people with PID at PID UK - COVID-19 vaccines and PID

Q. Should I contact my immunology centre or GP about getting the COVID vaccination?

No, all services are over stretched. Wait to be contacted by the NHS, your NHS number is being used to track people wherever you are vaccinated. In some areas you will be contacted by a Hub not your own GP, but they will contact you. Your immunology centre will not have any vaccine and will not have a means to liaise with the vaccination hubs.

Q. Who will let me know when I can get the COVID vaccine?

The NHS is working through a priority list as set out by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).

You SHOULD NOT contact the NHS or your local GP surgery about the COVID vaccination.

The NHS will let you know when it is your turn to have the vaccine. This will be in the form of a letter/email from your GP or the NHS. It will include all the information you need to book appointments, including your NHS number.

Q. Can I have pay for a private COVID vaccination?

COVID vaccines will ONLY be available through the NHS.