

Information sheet for individuals who have been incorrectly invited for a COVID-19 spring booster

What's happened?

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has included some people who are immunosuppressed (have a weakened immune system) as eligible for a spring booster. Some individuals in Wales have incorrectly been identified as eligible to be part of this group offered a COVID-19 spring booster vaccination. You may have already or will shortly receive a letter regarding this.

The eligibility criteria for the immunosuppressed group is now broader for the spring booster than it has been previously. Therefore you may have been incorrectly identified in the immunosuppressed group due to an electronic patient identification problem. This is because you may be on the list as being eligible for specific treatments (antivirals) if you get COVID-19.

What does this mean?

If you are over 75, a resident in a care home for older people or immunosuppressed then you continue to be eligible for a spring booster. For those not in these groups who have been incorrectly identified as eligible, the offer of the additional vaccination will be honoured. This is because you are someone at higher risk of severe illness if you get COVID-19 and are therefore likely to benefit from the spring booster vaccination as the vaccination will provide additional protection.

What do I need to do?

It is your choice whether you receive this additional booster vaccine or decline the offer. Your decision will not affect any future offer of a COVID-19 vaccination if you are eligible. It may help to speak to a COVID-19 vaccinator to make your decision.

Side effects

As with your previous doses, common side effects are the same for all COVID-19 vaccine doses. The benefits of receiving the vaccination outweigh the risks of side effects.

More information about side effects is available in the patient information leaflets available digitally at: phw.nhs.wales/covidvaccine

Further information is available at: gov.wales/covid-19-vaccination-booster