NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF
Primary Care
HEALTH SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Oxford–Royal College of General Practitioners
ORCHID CLINICAL INFORMATICS DIGITAL HUB

RCGP RESEARCH & SURVEILLANCE CENTRE

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Your Weekly Update from Simon de Lusignan, Director of RCGP RSC

Who should be prioritised for future booster vaccination doses?

We looked at...
20 Dec 2021 → 28 Feb 2022
16.2 million people
Northern Ireland • Scotland • Wales • England
across all four UK nations
who received their **primary COVID-19 vaccinations**...
...of whom **13.8 million** also received **1 booster dose**

We investigated which groups of people were more likely to be **admitted to hospital or die** due to **COVID-19** despite being vaccinated

Read the paper and our summary at: https://edin.ac/3ERnUZR

1. People are more at risk of becoming severely ill with COVID-19 without a booster
8,800 — People without / before a booster
7,600 — People with a booster
Cases of serious COVID-19 (per million people, per year)

2. People are more at risk if they are:
80+ Aged 80+
Immuno-compromised (e.g. cancer and transplant patients)
living with stage 4 or 5 **chronic kidney disease**
living with **multiple health conditions**

We recommend that people who are aged 80+ and/or living with multiple or high risk health conditions should be prioritised for the 2022 autumn booster doses

BREATHE Health Data Research Hub   EAVEII   HSC Business Services Organisation Honest Broker Service   SAIL DATABANK   RCGP Royal College of General Practitioners Research & Surveillance Centre

The Vaccine Breakthrough Project

A recent paper has been published in The Lancet related to a project we've been involved with, the Vaccine Breakthrough Project | The University of Edinburgh

This research looked at who is at higher risk of serious illness following an Omicron infection, after a third or booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Current UK policy is to offer further booster doses to people at high risk of serious COVID-19 illness. However, it is still not clear who will benefit most from being prioritised for booster vaccines.

The UK's Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) who advise the UK Government on vaccine policy, tasked the team to find out which groups are still at risk of becoming seriously ill with COVID-19 following an Omicron infection, after a first booster vaccine.

Health data from across the four nations of the UK was used to carry out this study, with the dataset for England provided by our secure data processing environment, ORCHID.

Find out more about this important research and the findings at **https://edin.ac/3ERnUZR**

Watch our colleague Utkarsh Argawal present the key findings here:
Who is most likely to experience severe COVID-19 despite being vaccinated? - YouTube

You can also discover how this project's findings will be used in the real-world here: [Vaccine Breakthrough Project: How have these results been used in real life? - YouTube](#)

TAKEATESTUK.COM - A Swabbing Option

Everyone knows GP Surgeries across the country are increasingly busy. Finding time to swab patients who present with an influenza-like-illness can be challenging.

But sampling continues to be our most powerful tool in tracking the spread of viruses and measuring vaccine effectiveness.

Some of our member practices are taking advantage of an alternative way to offer swabs, by directing them to the Take A Test UK (TATUK) service. Here's how it works:

For any patients within 10 days of covid- or flu-like symptom onset, you can:

- Provide them with your practice code
- Point them to the TATUK instruction videos: https://takeatestuk.com/phe-home
- They then use the practice code as a 'voucher' to log in and order the swab on the home page: https://takeatestuk.com

Patients will then:

- Receive a self-swabbing kit to swab themselves
- They then post the swab using the pre-paid envelope
- Their Covid-19 and Flu test results will arrive via text message

Practices will receive:

- The complete set of test results for the patient, via eLab
- £12.50 for each successful swab

Please remember: Practices will need to code *'Self-taken swab for SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2) offered'.*

Swabs can be taken from any age group but we would really appreciate more swabs in the over 65's and under 5 year olds.

As mentioned, **we now pay £12.50 for every successful swab** and we're asking our practice members to provide 20 swabs per week.

Thanks for considering this option - if you have any questions, we're here to help! Please email us at practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk

ClinT Of The Week

Acute laryngitis (disorder)
SCTID: 6655004

6655004 | Acute laryngitis (disorder) |
   Acute laryngitis
   Acute laryngitis (disorder)