



Monday 12 April 2021

What's in your Partners in Care bulletin?

This weekly bulletin provides details of training, guidance, access to past editions and lots more. There's also helpful information on the web pages dedicated to our Independent Care Provider colleagues.

[Please click here to bookmark these pages](#)



AstraZenca COVID Vaccination Update

We're aware some staff within care providers have been concerned following recent media stories relating to the AstraZenca vaccine. As per the [JCVI statement on use of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine: 7 April 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#), please find information and responses to frequently asked questions below that will hopefully reassure:

The key messages for individuals are

- Please come forward when invited, these vaccines are saving lives.
- The MHRA's advice remains that the benefits of the vaccines against COVID-19 continue to outweigh any risks and that the public should continue to get their vaccine when invited to do so.
- JCVI currently advises that it is preferable for adults aged <30 years without underlying health conditions that put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease, to be offered an alternative COVID-19 vaccine, if available. People may make an informed choice to receive the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine to receive earlier protection.
- To date, there are no reports of the extremely rare thrombosis/thrombocytopenia events following receipt of the second dose of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. All those who have received a first dose of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine should continue to be offered a second dose of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, irrespective of age. The second dose will be important for longer lasting protection against COVID-19.

Effectiveness of the vaccine

Since the start of the pandemic over 4 million COVID-19 infections have been confirmed in the UK causing more than 120,000 deaths. Over 30 million people have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine since the start of the programme, which Public Health England (PHE) estimate has prevented at least 6,000 deaths in the first 3 months of 2021. Analysis of infection data since the introduction of the COVID-19 vaccines in the UK demonstrates that vaccination is highly effective and substantially reduces the risk of infection and severe COVID-19 disease.

Blood clots

There have been reports of an extremely rare adverse event of concurrent thrombosis (blood clots) and thrombocytopenia (low platelet count) following vaccination with the first dose of AstraZeneca ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine (AZD1222). There has been no signal for thrombosis/thrombocytopenia following receipt of other COVID-19 vaccines approved for use in the UK (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna). Given the very low numbers of events reported overall, there is currently a high level of uncertainty in estimates of the incidence of this extremely rare adverse event by age group. However, the available data do suggest there may be a trend for increasing incidence of this adverse event with decreasing age, with a slightly higher incidence reported in the younger adult age groups. In contrast, the risks of severe disease associated with COVID-19 increases steeply with age, with the youngest adults at lowest risk. There are currently no known risk factors for this extremely rare condition, which appears to be an idiosyncratic reaction on first exposure to the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine.

Their advice

Alternatives to the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine currently approved for use in the UK include the Pfizer-BioNTech BNT162b2 and Moderna mRNA-1273 vaccines. JCVI has weighed the relative balance of benefits and risks and advise that the benefits of prompt vaccination with the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine far outweigh the risk of adverse events for individuals 30 years of age and over and those who have underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease. **JCVI currently advises that it is preferable for adults aged <30 years without underlying health conditions that put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease, to be offered an alternative COVID-19 vaccine, if available. People may make an informed choice to receive the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine to receive earlier protection.**

Advice for the under 30's

There are some adults <30 without underlying health conditions who are in phase 1, who were prioritised due to an increased risk of exposure and/or to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to vulnerable individuals. This includes health and social care workers, unpaid carers and household contacts of immunosuppressed individuals. Acting on a precautionary basis, if these persons are still unvaccinated, it is preferable for them to be offered an alternative COVID-19 vaccine, if available. JCVI is currently finalising its advice on phase 2 of the programme, particularly for healthy people under 30 years of age, and this will be published in due course.

What if you have already had your first dose?

To date, there are no reports of the extremely rare thrombosis/thrombocytopenia events following receipt of the second dose of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. **All those who have received a first dose of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine should continue to be offered a second dose of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, irrespective of age.** The second dose will be important for longer lasting protection against COVID-19. JCVI advises that all individuals offered a COVID-19 vaccine should be fully informed about the benefits and risks of vaccination. This should include clear information on the extremely rare thrombosis/thrombocytopenia adverse event, how to monitor for symptoms that might be related to the adverse event, and what action should be taken by individuals and health professionals in the event of such symptoms arising. PHE is preparing updated information for those being offered COVID-19 vaccines, and for health professionals, which will be available through the GOV.UK website.



Capacity Tracker- COVID Vaccination 2nd Doses Recording and Access to Provider Data

We have been updated that the providers will be asked to provide details of 2nd doses of COVID vaccinations for your staff commencing **Friday 16 April**. A correspondence direct from the Capacity Tracker to providers should follow shortly showing you what the questions will look like. Nationally the Capacity Tracker team are looking at what questions could be removed or altered to reduce the burden on providers, so we will keep you updated on this as we hear more.

Additionally, from the evening of Monday 12 April anonymised Capacity Tracker data will be made available to all provider groups – Care Homes, Home Care, Hospices, Substance Misuse and Community Rehabilitation organisations, giving reports at organisation level and national level. They are also introducing a new report; Comparative Analysis, which will allow users to view their location data against a local or regional geographical data set. A series of sessions are taking place to provide the opportunity of a walk-through of the new functionality. The dates are below. If you wish to attend any please contact sam.varo@nhs.net for the joining details.

Thursday 15 April 2.00-2.45

Friday 16 April 2.00-2.45

Tuesday 20 April 10.00-10.45

Thursday 22 April 10.00-10.45

Monday 26 April 2.00-2.45

Wednesday 28 April 2.00-2.45



NHS
Yorkshire
Ambulance Service
NHS Trust

Yorkshire Ambulance Service Dementia Survey

As an NHS trust Yorkshire Ambulance Service is on a journey to become dementia friendly. This work involves engagement with people living with

dementia as well as their carers. They currently have a [survey](#) open to record peoples experiences of using 999, 111 and Patient Transport Services which they would be interested in hearing from carers working with those with dementia in a professional capacity or a who have care responsibilities in their personal lives. The survey will close in early May.

Need to know

Guidance and Resources Updates

- [Visits Outside Care Homes](#) - New guidance is out on people of all ages going on outside visits from care homes as of 12 April. People will still need to isolate on return to the home after a visit out and so for many, visit to the home may be the preferred option
- [Visiting Care Homes](#)- Guidance for visiting care homes has been updated ahead of the 12 April. From this date, each care home resident can name up to 2 people who can come for regular indoor visits. In the 'Guidance on care home visiting', the section on essential care givers has been updated and a new section added on visits involving children and young people aged under 18
- **PPE Changes**- Guidance for [care homes](#) and [domiciliary care](#) has been updated. Masks are now **single use**, rather than sessional and there is new guidance on eye protection for people delivering personal care within 2 meters Domiciliary care guidance is for all people who work in 'visiting' or 'hourly' homecare (that is, where care workers visit individuals where they live) 'extra care housing' and 'supported living' schemes directly employed personal assistants, 'live-in' homecare.



React to Red App- Now Available on CCG Tablets

The React to Red Pressure Ulcer Prevention App is now available on all CCG provided tablets devices. This is an effective framework which supports carers in recognising when an individual may be at increased risk of pressure ulcer development and the simple steps that can be taken to avoid them. It contains

the same content as the [CCG's React to Red Training Programme](#) which is still available to providers.

For non CCG tablets the app can be downloaded for free through this [link](#).

For more information on React to Red please contact: h.degnan1@nhs.net

If you have any further apps you would like adding to your CCG tablet please contact: sam.varo@nhs.net

Reporting Patient Safety Concerns for York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust have agreed a new process for reporting patient safety concerns about the Trust. By sending through to this dedicated generic email, it will allow the Trust to continuously receipt, acknowledge and investigation the patient safety concerns of our neighbouring organisations. Please send your patient safety concerns that involve the trust to: yhs-tr.s2s@nhs.net

Training and Development Opportunities



PCPLD Network
Palliative Care for People with Learning Disabilities

Palliative Care for People with Learning Disabilities

The PCPLD Network brings together service providers, people with a learning disability and carers working for the benefit of individuals with learning disabilities who have palliative care needs. As well as resources and podcasts they have a wide range of [webinars](#) available to support providers.

Upcoming Training Sessions and Events

- **Webinar: Practical Approaches to Working with Partners-** Tuesday 20 April 2021 11.00-11.30
- **National Nursing Associate in Social Care Community of Practice Virtual Event-** Tuesday 20 April 10.00-13.00
- **Exploring the World of Assistive Technology-** Thursday 22 April 15.00-16.00
- **York Carers Centre Carers Awareness Training-** Monday 26 April 10.30-12.30

For more information on these sessions and to book on, please visit the [Partners in Care Training Page](#)

Further Information

Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT)

To book onto one of the regular workshops to help providers complete the DSPT, please contact the DSPT North East and York Team: england.dsptney@nhs.net. Liz Howarth from the team will be providing an update at Partners in Care Virtual Forum on 22 April, and the team are also hosting bitesize 15 minute introductory sessions which can be booked on through the above email.

Qwell- Mental Health and Wellbeing Support

[Qwell](#) is A free, safe and anonymous mental health and wellbeing service commissioned by the CCG for adults within the Vale of York. There are no waiting lists, no referrals and no thresholds required to access the service. The service encourages peer-to-peer support via moderated discussion forums and self-help through reading or submitting content. Qwell also gives access to online counselling from qualified counsellors who are available from midday to 10pm every week day and from 6pm to 10pm at weekends. You can drop in for one-to-one instant text-based chats or book a session in advance.

This bulletin is produced by NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group.

Do you have.....

- **thoughts or comments to share?**
- **news that you would like to feature in the bulletin?**
- **items to be discussed at the next Partners in Care Meeting?**

If so please contact sarah.fiori@nhs.net or sam.varo@nhs.net