

VACCINATIONS

Information about the Covid-19 and flu vaccinations



How do Covid-19 vaccines work?

Most Covid-19 vaccines trigger immune responses to a tiny fragment of SARS-CoV-2, which is the virus that causes Covid-19 disease. If a vaccinated person is infected by the virus later, the immune system recognises it and can attack the virus, enabling that person's immune system to protect them from Covid-19 disease.



I'm still worried about how quickly the Covid-19 vaccination was developed

The steps were fast due to thousands of researchers, volunteers and the high virus prevalence, making it easier to measure the safety and effectiveness of the vaccines.

Over 6.5 billion Covid-19 vaccine doses have been administered globally. Tracking shows that the vaccines are reducing deaths, hospitalisations and infection rates.



Can I still get Covid-19 vaccinations?

Yes, anyone can receive a first, second or booster jab <https://sneevaccine.org.uk/>
There are walk-in clinics available, see dates and locations here:

<https://sneevaccine.org.uk/location-of-walk-in-clinics/>

Or call the patient helpline on 0344 257 3961 if you need help to book an appointment.



Can having flu be serious?

Influenza (flu) and the common cold are both contagious respiratory illnesses, but they are caused by different viruses.

Flu is much worse than a cold and can lead to serious illness or even death.



How can I get a flu vaccination?

Over 50's, adults with certain health conditions, children of certain ages, those in residential care, carers, front line health workers, those who live with immunocompromised individuals or pregnant people are eligible for a free flu vaccine via their GP or pharmacy.

Anyone who is not eligible for a free vaccine can purchase a vaccination from a pharmacy.



What are the key things I should remember?

Flu and Covid-19 can be unpredictable and highly infectious.

This winter is predicted to be worse for flu than previous years.

Remember to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze and wash your hands frequently.

To find out about how vaccines work, there's information on the World Health Organisation website here: [How do vaccines work? \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int)

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