

COVID-19 Guidelines (Nov. 2021)

This bulletin will highlight various guidance – most websites and articles are open access at the time of writing. Should an article be difficult to obtain please contact us and we will obtain it on your behalf.

The number of guidelines published with specific regards to COVID-19 is decreasing, if you would like our help in finding a specific guideline, please contact us and we will find it for you. However, the number of COVID-19 articles being published is increasing exponentially – if you would like us to search on a particular topic – COVID-19 related, or otherwise, please do let us know.

Further information and resources are also available on the library website at <http://www.hantshealthcarelibrary.nhs.uk/covid-19-resources.asp>

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Critical Care

Clinical guide for the management of critical care for adults with COVID-19 during the Coronavirus pandemic – UPDATED SECTION 5 CONTENT (recovery, respiratory failure)

The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine; 2021.

<https://icmanaesthesiacovid-19.org/clinical-guide-for-the-management-of-critical-care-for-adults-with-covid-19-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic>

[This clinical guidance provides contemporary information for practising clinicians caring for critically ill adult patients with COVID-19. Whilst many of these patients will be cared for on intensive care units, some patients receiving continuous positive airways pressure (CPAP) and/or non-invasive ventilation (NIV) may be cared for on specialist respiratory wards. Version 6 updates the previous FICM and ICS guidelines published in April 2021, section 5 ‘Management of respiratory failure’.]

Freely available online

Genomics

COVID-19: genomic surveillance of patients who are treated with neutralising monoclonal antibody or immunosuppressed.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-genomic-surveillance-of-patients-who-are->

[treated-with-neutralising-monooclonal-antibody-or-immunosuppressed/](#)

[This protocol covers the surveillance of patients who are highly immunosuppressed, and all patients receiving therapeutic neutralising monoclonal antibodies.]

Freely available online

Haematology

Guidance from the Expert Haematology Panel (EHP) on Covid-19 Vaccine-induced Immune Thrombocytopenia and Thrombosis (VITT)

British Society for Haematology; 2021.

<https://b-s-h.org.uk/media/20075/guidance-version-22-20210903.pdf>

[Updated Guidance on Management. Version 2.2 31 August 2021]

Freely available online

Infection Prevention and Control

UKHSA review into IPC guidance.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukhsa-review-into-ipc-guidance/>

[Update: Added 'Recommendation 4: a more flexible approach to patient consultations in primary care and general practice'.]

Freely available online

UKHSA review into IPC guidance.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukhsa-review-into-ipc-guidance/>

[Recommendations for changes to COVID-19 infection prevention and control (IPC) advice to help ease pressure on the NHS in primary care.]

Freely available online

Ultrasound gel: good infection prevention practice.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ultrasound-gel-good-infection-prevention-practice/>

[Guidance on the safe use of ultrasound gel to reduce risk of transmission of infection during ultrasound and related procedures.]

Freely available online

Ventilation and air conditioning during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

Health and Safety Executive (HSE); 2021.

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/equipment-and-machinery/air-conditioning-and-ventilation/index.htm>

[The law says employers must make sure there's an adequate supply of fresh air (ventilation) in enclosed areas of the workplace. This has not changed during the pandemic. Adequate ventilation reduces how much virus is in the air. It helps reduce the risk from aerosol transmission. Aerosol transmission can happen when someone breathes in small particles in the air (aerosols) after a

person with the virus has been in the same enclosed area.]

Freely available online

Long Term Care

COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing the long-term effects of COVID-19.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng188>

[This guideline covers identifying, assessing and managing the long-term effects of COVID-19, often described as 'long COVID'. On 11 November, NICE made new recommendations and updated existing recommendations on identification; planning care; multidisciplinary rehabilitation; follow up, monitoring and discharge; and service organisation. NICE also updated the list of common symptoms, emphasising that these may be different for children.]

Freely available online

Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Breastfeeding with COVID-19 infection.

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS); 2021.

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/breastfeeding-with-covid-19-infection/>

[It is recommended that breastfeeding should continue if the mother has COVID-19 infection. This page contains links to current advice and lists precautions that can be taken to reduce the risk of the infant becoming infected through close contact.]

Freely available online

Pathology

Guidelines for post-mortem cross-sectional imaging in adults for non-forensic deaths.

Royal College of Pathologists; 2021.

<https://www.rcpath.org/profession/guidelines/autopsy-guidelines-series.html>

[This autopsy guideline published by the Royal College of Pathologists (RCPath) is a bench-top guideline for pathologists and radiologists to deal with non-suspicious consented and coroner's post-mortem examinations in a consistent manner and to a high standard.]

Freely available online

Pharmacology

Getting ready to use casirivimab and imdevimab: guidance for Chief Pharmacists.

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS); 2021.

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/getting-ready-to-use-casirivimab-and-imdevimab-guidance-for-chief-pharmacists/>

[This guidance for Chief Pharmacists supports the pharmacy institutional readiness for the management of casirivimab and imdevimab in COVID-19 infection.]

Freely available online

Preparing Casirivimab 600mg Imdevimab 600mg using 2.5mL vials.

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS); 2021.

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/preparing-casirivimab-600mg-imdevimab-600mg-using-2-5ml-vials/>

[Materials are provided to support implementation of safe processes for preparation. Documents include detail on how to prepare in an aseptic unit, preparation or kits for use in clinical area, clinical area preparation work instructions and worksheets for other Ronapreve products.]

Freely available online

Using Tocilizumab or Sarilumab for hospitalised patients with COVID-19 who are breastfeeding.

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS); 2021.

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/using-tocilizumab-or-sarilumab-for-hospitalised-patients-with-covid-19-who-are-breastfeeding/>

[Breastfeeding of full-term and healthy infants can continue if treatment with tocilizumab and sarilumab are required. If the infant was born prematurely, is unwell, or the mother is taking multiple medicines, the UK Drugs in Lactation Advisory Service should be contacted.]

Freely available online

Using Tocilizumab or Sarilumab for hospitalised patients with COVID-19 who are pregnant.

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS); 2021.

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/using-tocilizumab-or-sarilumab-for-hospitalised-patients-with-covid-19-who-are-pregnant/>

[This page signposts to current guidance on this off-label use of the two medicines from the UK Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and UKTIS. Healthcare professionals are encouraged to contact UKTIS should they be considered for use.]

Freely available online

PPE

Testing and procurement of transparent masks.

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT); 2021.

<https://www.rcslt.org/learning/covid-19/testing-and-procurement-of-transparent-masks/>

[Information on the use of transparent face masks during COVID-19, including details on the process of testing and procurement and how RCSLT members can access approved masks.]

Freely available online

Public Health

COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021.

Cabinet Office; 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-autumn-and-winter-plan-2021>

[The government has published the Covid-19 response: autumn and winter plan, setting out plans for autumn and winter 2021/22 in England. It includes the government's Plan A – a comprehensive approach designed to steer the country through autumn and winter 2021/22. It also outlines a Plan

B, which would only be enacted if the data suggests further measures are necessary to protect the NHS.] *Freely available online*

COVID-19: letter to patients on end of shielding programme.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-letter-to-patients-on-end-of-shielding-programme/>

[Reference-only version of letter from the government to patients on the end of the shielding programme.]

Freely available online

Preventing and controlling outbreaks of COVID-19 in prisons and places of detention.

Public Health England (PHE); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-prisons-and-other-prescribed-places-of-detention-guidance>

[Information for prisons and other prescribed places of detention on coronavirus (COVID-19).]

Freely available online

SARS-CoV-2 variants of public health interest.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sars-cov-2-variants-of-public-health-interest/>

[Details of the variants of public health interest (updated 12 November 2021)]

Freely available online

Respiratory Care

COVID-19 rapid guideline: managing COVID-19.

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng191>

[In October, NICE updated existing recommendations on tocilizumab and sarilumab. This guideline covers the management of COVID-19 for children, young people and adults in all care settings. It brings together our existing recommendations on managing COVID-19, and new recommendations on therapeutics, so that healthcare staff and those planning and delivering services can find and use them more easily.]

Freely available online

Statistics

COVID-19 surveillance and immunity studies.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-surveillance/covid-19-surveillance/>

[This guidance is an overview of current population surveillance studies in the UK and is for healthcare professionals, academics, industry and the general public.]

Freely available online

Vaccination

COVID-19 booster vaccine programme for winter 2021 to 2022: JCVI statement, November 2021.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-booster-vaccine-programme-for-winter-2021-to-2022-jcvi-statement-november-2021/>

[This statement sets out further advice from JCVI on extension of the booster programme to revaccinate adults aged 40 to 49 years against COVID-19. The main aim of this booster vaccination programme is to reduce deaths, serious disease and hospitalisations from COVID-19 over the 2021 to 2022 winter period and through 2022.]

Freely available online

COVID-19 vaccination in children and young people aged 16 to 17 years: JCVI statement, November 2021.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-in-children-and-young-people-aged-16-to-17-years-jcvi-statement-november-2021/>

[Advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on COVID-19 vaccination in children and young people aged 16 to 17 years.]

Freely available online

COVID-19 vaccination programme.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/covid-19-vaccination-programme/>

[Documents relating to the new coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination programme. Updated: Added links to social media resources aimed at pregnant women.]

Freely available online

COVID-19 vaccination: resources for schools.

UK Health Security Agency; 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-schools>

[The guidance for schools has been produced to assist all school staff and headteachers with any questions about the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination programme. The COVID-19 vaccination invitation letter template can be downloaded and adapted to suit the needs of local healthcare teams. It should be sent to parents of eligible children, along with an accompanying information leaflet and consent form.]

Freely available online

COVID-19 vaccination: women of childbearing age, currently pregnant or breastfeeding.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding>

[Information for all women of childbearing age, those currently pregnant or breastfeeding on coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination. 8 October 2021: Updated 'COVID-19 vaccination: a guide on

pregnancy and breastfeeding' and links to translated versions of the poster and social media cards.]
Freely available online

COVID-19 vaccinations received overseas.

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccinations-received-overseas/>

[This document provides clinical advice on whether additional doses would be beneficial to enhance protection for those who received coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccinations overseas.]

Freely available online

COVID-19 vaccines and medicines: updates for November 2021.

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/covid-19-vaccines-and-medicines-updates-for-november-2021>

[Drug Safety Update. Recent information relating to COVID-19 vaccines and medicines that has been published since the October 2021 issue of Drug Safety Update, up to 12 November 2021.]

Freely available online

COVID-19: enhanced surveillance of cases in vaccinated individuals.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-enhanced-surveillance-of-cases-in-vaccinated-individuals/>

[Information on the enhanced surveillance of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in vaccinated individuals. Clinicians are requested to report any confirmed cases and submit samples for partially or fully vaccinated individuals that meet the case definition.]

Freely available online

COVID-19: provision of immunisation sessions for outbreaks in schools.

Public Health England (PHE); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-provision-of-immunisation-sessions-for-outbreaks-in-schools>

[Guidance for School Age Immunisation Services on the provision of immunisation sessions in schools where there are cases or an outbreak of COVID-19.]

Freely available online

Defrosting the COVID-19 Vaccine Pfizer-BioNTech.

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS); 2021.

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/defrosting-the-covid-19-vaccine-pfizer-biontech/>

[The COVID-19 Vaccine Pfizer-BioNTech must be defrosted before use. This page provides information on the thawing process, including principles for defrosting and thawing in a refrigerator and at room temperature.]

Freely available online

Dosing information for COVID-19 booster vaccination.

Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS); 2021.

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/dosing-information-for-covid-19-booster-vaccination-2/>

[This covers dose scheduling, vaccine choice, patient group directions and national protocols, actions when the intervals are longer than or less than recommended, and use of alternative brands for second doses.]

Freely available online

Information for Healthcare Professionals on COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca (Regulation 174).

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca/information-for-healthcare-professionals-on-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca-regulation-174>

[Updated 9 September 2021. Sections updated to include information about receiving a third dose and an additional pharmacovigilance condition.]

Freely available online

Information for Healthcare Professionals on COVID-19 Vaccine Pfizer/BioNTech (Regulation 174) .

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-pfizer-biontech-vaccine-for-covid-19/information-for-healthcare-professionals-on-pfizerbiontech-covid-19-vaccine>

[Updated 9 September 2021. Sections updated to include information about receiving a third dose and an additional pharmacovigilance condition.]

Freely available online

Monitoring reports of the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination.

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/monitoring-reports-of-the-effectiveness-of-covid-19-vaccination>

[Data on the real-world efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines.]

Freely available online

National protocol for COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca (ChAdOx1-S - recombinant).

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-protocol-for-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca-chadox1-s-recombinant/>

[This protocol is for the administration of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) to individuals in accordance with the national COVID-19 vaccination programme.]

Freely available online

National protocol for Spikevax (formerly COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna).

Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-protocol-for-covid-19-vaccine-moderna/>

[This protocol is for the administration of Spikevax to individuals in accordance with the national

COVID-19 vaccination programme.]

Freely available online

Please contact us as per the details below if you require help or advice seeking information or accessing articles and books. Thank you.

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