COVID-19 vaccinations – Spring 2024

Following advice from the <u>Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation's (JCVI)</u>, the NHS is now preparing to deliver COVID vaccinations for people most at risk of serious illness this spring. More than 292,500 people across Hertfordshire and west Essex were protected with a COVID vaccination this autumn and we would like to thank everyone who came forward.

Eligibility

The eligibility criteria for the spring 2024 programme of COVID vaccinations has changed and is now:

- Adults aged 75 years and over
- Residents in a care home for older adults
- Individuals aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed (as defined in tables 3 and 4 on pages 24 and 26 of the COVID-19 chapter of the Green Book.

This includes those who turn 75 years old by 30 June 2024. People who are admitted to an older adult care home or become immunosuppressed by 30 June are also eligible.

Frontline health and social care staff are not eligible for a COVID vaccination this spring.

Campaign start and end dates

Visits to older adult care homes and eligible housebound patients will begin from 15 April 2024. For the over 75s and people with a weakened immune system, vaccinations will start being offered by GPs and pharmacies from 22 April 2024.

How to access a vaccination

As in previous rounds of COVID vaccinations, eligible people will be able to access a vaccination from GP practices and from local pharmacies. More information about which pharmacies are offering vaccinations will be published closer to the start date. We would encourage patients to wait until they are invited rather than contact their GP practices before 22 April.