

Dear Patient,

**JCVI guidance for vaccinating immunosuppressed individuals with a third primary dose**

We are writing to let you know that you are eligible for a supplementary dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in light of the [latest advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#). The advice recommends a third dose for individuals aged 12 years and over are taking immunosuppressive treatment now or when they had the 1<sup>st</sup> and/or 2<sup>nd</sup> COVID vaccination.

You are eligible within this category given your current health condition requiring immune suppressant medications. This advice is a precautionary measure to increase your immunity level and provide a better vaccine response, based on relevant studies and experience with other vaccines. This will form part of your primary course of vaccination and is separate to a booster vaccination.

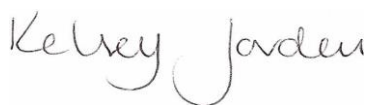
It is recommended your 2nd vaccination is at least 8 weeks after your 1st vaccination. A booster is likely to be recommended 6 months' after your 2nd vaccination. If you have already had your booster or due your booster, this will be considered as your 3rd vaccination.

We recommend that you use the national booking system at [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination) or call 119 free of charge to book your vaccination. **Please book this dose as a Booster dose on the national booking system.** This will later be changed to a third dose on the system. You should also take this letter with you to your appointment as additional proof of your eligibility.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with either your GP or consultant team to discuss further.

For more information about the coronavirus vaccine, visit [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination).

Yours sincerely,



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**Disease Modifying Drugs (DMARDs):**

Azathioprine; Ciclosporin; Cyclophosphamide; Leflunomide; Methotrexate; Mycophenolate mofetil; Tacrolimus

(Please note Sulfasalazine and Hydroxychloroquine are not immune suppressant and do not qualify for a 3<sup>rd</sup> primary vaccination)

**Biological Treatments**

Co-stimulatory molecules: Abatacept;

TNF inhibitors: Adalimumab (Amgevita, Humira, Hyrimoz, Imraldi); Certolizumab; Etanercept (Benepali, Enbrel); Golimumab; Infliximab

Interleukin-1 inhibitors: Anakinra; Canakinumab

Interleukin-6 inhibitors: Tocilizumab; Sarilumab

Interleukin-17/23 inhibitors: Ustekinumab; Secukinumab; Ixekizumab; Brodalumab; Guselkumab and Tildrakizumab

CD20 inhibitors: Rituximab; Ocrelizumab

Janus Kinase Inhibitors: Baricitinib; Filgotinib; Tofacitinib; Upadacitinib