



ASCOT MEDICAL CENTRE

at the heart of the community

We are pleased to say we have started to administer the Covid-19 vaccinations. Please note that we are not in control of how many vaccines we have access to. Currently we are only receiving vaccines on an ad hoc basis. It is hopeful that this will increase as more supplies become available.

Appointments are scheduled as soon as confirmed dates for deliveries of the vaccine have been arranged and they are immediately put on the system and notified to all local GP Practices. Working together, we hope to ensure that all patients are booked in either by the patient contacting the Practices directly or by contact made from Berkshire Primary Care.

Daily contact to our eligible patients in the current cohort 1-4 is being made, on behalf of the Practices by Berkshire Primary Care. You may receive a text inviting you to book your appointment online via a link (this is not a scam) or receive a telephone call from the Hub centre offering an appointment. There are other communications being sent out by NHSE inviting patients in this area to attend what is known as a Mass Vaccination Site (MVS) which is in Slough. However, locally we are running – via Berkshire Primary Care – a Local Vaccination Site (LVS) which is at Waitrose Sports Centre (off Southern Industrial Estate), Willoughby Road, Bracknell RG12 8FP. As a patient you have to the choice to attend where it is the most convenient to you.

You may be contacted at short notice, but we advise you get the vaccine at the time and date offered as we are not available to be flexible at this stage. When you attend your appointment please ensure the following:

- ❖ **Maintain a safe distance of 2 meters from all other patients.**
- ❖ **Please wear a face covering.**
- ❖ **Please sanitise your hands on arrival and on departure from the building.**
- ❖ **Please do not arrive early or late for your appointment.**
- ❖ **Be ready for your vaccine and wear appropriate clothing to allow easy access to your arm.**
- ❖ **Please do not attend your appointment if you have a new or continuous cough, temperature or have lost your sense of smell or taste.**

Cohort 1-4 is now nearly complete and if you have not had a letter and you are over 70 please call your own GP surgery to help you arrange to have your vaccination.

Cohort 5-6 are now being called(All patients aged over 65 and patients with underlying health conditions aged 16-65 as set out Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (**JCVI**))

If you haven't had a letter or a call and you are over 70, please do call your own GP Practice to help for all other patients - you will be contacted when we get to your cohort.

Pregnant Patients:

There are no data as yet on the safety of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnancy, either from human or animal studies. Given the lack of evidence, JCVI favours a precautionary approach, and does not currently advise COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy. Women should be advised not to come forward for vaccination if they may be pregnant or are planning a pregnancy within three months of the first dose.

Children: The Covid vaccines, as advised by JCVI (Joint Committee Vaccination & Immunisation), are not currently licenced for children under the age of 16. There is very limited data on vaccination in adolescents, with no data on vaccination in younger children, at this time. Children with severe neuro-disabilities that present with severe recurrent respiratory infections aged between ages 12-16 may be considered for vaccination but this is an unlicensed use.

Covid-19 vaccination Cohorts as set out by JCVI

- 1 Residents in a care home for older adults and their carers**
- 2 All those 80 years of age and over Frontline health and social care workers**
- 3 All those 75 years of age and over**
- 4 All those 70 years of age and over clinically extremely vulnerable individuals***
- 5 All those 65 years of age and over**
- 6 All individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality**
- 7 All those 60 years of age and over**
- 8 All those 55 years of age and over**
- 9 All those 50 years of age and over**