

Regional Clinical Advice Response Service 27/05/21

For any COVID-19 vaccination related queries or to escalate an incident please contact:
england.swcovid19-cars@nhs.net

Please note that going forward and in line with the RVOC and NVOC, RCARS will now operate between the hours of 8am and 6pm over the weekend.

**PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL RELEVANT STAFF INVOLVED WITH THE
VACCINATION PROGRAMME**

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NBS Booking System – AZ Clinic Booking Errors

We are aware that there have been some issues with NBS booking people to AZ clinics in error. This has been raised with the national team as the system should default under 40s to Pfizer clinics.

However, if this is their 2nd dose, as they were eligible due to being in Cohort 6 and at clinical risk then they can be offered AZ to complete the course

Please see Question 20. [Information for healthcare professionals on blood clotting following COVID-19 vaccination - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

The JCVI statement relating to which vaccine the under 40s should have is as follows:

As COVID-19 rates continue to come under control, we are advising that adults aged 18 to 39 years with no underlying health conditions are offered an alternative to the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine, if available and if it does not cause delays in having the vaccine.

[JCVI advises on COVID-19 vaccine for people aged under 40 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

In the absence of a suitable alternative these individuals should still be offered the AstraZeneca vaccine, and may choose to receive the vaccine, provided they have been informed and understand the relative risks and benefits. They should be given the latest version of the COVID-19 vaccination and blood clotting leaflet

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-and-blood-clotting>

[COVID-19 Greenbook chapter 14a \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) Page 15



Roving Vaccinations and Clinics Not at The Designated Site

A new standard operating procedure (SOP) for roving and mobile vaccination models is in development and which will replace some of the guidance currently contained within the [SOP for LVS deployment in community settings](#).

The new SOP will apply to all the roving models that LVS providers currently operate, including to care homes, the housebound, other residential settings or settings of multiple occupancy, temporary vaccination clinics (or 'pop-ups') and drive through clinics. It will also include new guidance on mobile clinics, for example, vaccination buses.

Both the AstraZeneca and Pfizer/BioNTech vaccines can be used for roving vaccination models, depending on which vaccine is clinically appropriate for the patient cohort in question. Note however that for the purposes of avoiding vaccine waste, the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine is not suitable for roving visits to the housebound as once diluted, the vaccine must not be moved between sites/locations.

For guidance on transportation of the vaccine for the purposes of roving vaccinations, see the Specialist Pharmacist Service (SPS) website:

- [Transporting COVID-19 Vaccine Pfizer-BioNTech from Designated Sites to end user location](#)
- [Transporting the COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca from PCN designated sites to end user locations, patients' homes and within the PCN Grouping](#)

The recent change in MHRA guidance for the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine, extending the approved storage period of the unopened, thawed vial at 2-8°C from five days to one month (as reported in the 21/05 LVS update), will make planning for roving vaccinations models easier. You can read our letter on this change [here](#). Please note though that the fragility of the vaccine has not changed.

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