

Coronavirus

Partner update



Update: 27th October 2021

Dear colleagues,

With all the focus on Covid-19, it's important that we don't forget about flu this winter. Flu kills thousands of people every year and many more end up in hospital. It also places pressure on health and care services – services that are already under strain because of Covid-19.

Flu is not just a bad cold: it's debilitating and can have very serious consequences for some people. That's why [health leaders in Bolton are urging people to get their flu jab this winter](#).

You also don't want to catch flu and Covid-19 at the same time as you could end up seriously unwell.

It's important to remember that the flu vaccine won't protect you against Covid, and vice versa, so please get both vaccines if you are eligible.

Communications and Engagement Team
NHS Bolton Clinical Commissioning Group



Partner Update

Walk-in Covid-19 vaccination clinics

All the latest dates for Bolton's walk-in Covid-19 vaccination clinics are [in this leaflet](#) and [on our website](#).

Some walk-in clinics are also offering booster jabs to eligible people if they had their second dose at least six months ago. [Click here to check if you are eligible](#).

Covid-19 jabs for 12-15 year olds

12 to 15 year olds can now get the Covid-19 jab outside of school.

Parents can book an appointment on the [National Booking Service](#). People without internet access can call 119.

Available locations include Horwich RMI and more Bolton sites may be added. Please note appointments must be booked in advance, no walk-ins available for this age group.

This is in addition to the Covid-19 vaccination programme in schools which is being carried out by the School Age Immunisation Service.

[Click here for more details and to read a guidance booklet for parents/carers.](#)

Third doses for people who are severely immunocompromised

Anyone who is severely immunocompromised, including those on medications that suppress the immune system, should have a third dose of the Covid-19 vaccine as soon as eight weeks after their 2nd dose.

Anyone who is severely immunocompromised and struggling to get their third dose can contact NHS Bolton CCG for help on 01204 462125/462157/462030/462028.

Phone lines are open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.30pm.

Don't get floored by flu

The over-50s, pregnant women, those with certain health conditions, carers and health and care workers are entitled to a free flu jab. If you are not eligible you can get the flu vaccine at your local pharmacy for around £10 to £15.

Children in Reception to Year 11 can be vaccinated against flu with a free, painless nasal spray.

[Visit the CCG's website](#) for more information about flu and how to protect yourself.

Why is my GP working differently?

The CCG has produced a leaflet which answers some of the questions local people may have about their GP surgery during Covid-19. These include: 'Is my GP practice open? Why do reception staff ask so many questions? Why am I seeing someone who isn't my GP?'

It is available as an [image](#), which can be shared on social media, and a [printable PDF](#).

Think twice

The NHS in Bolton has launched a new campaign urging people to 'Think Twice' before deciding which NHS service to use this winter.

This is to help people make the right choice, and help ease the pressure on health and care services.

[Click here to find out more](#) and look out for the campaign on social media and advertising hoardings.

Waiting for hospital treatment?

The Covid-19 pandemic means that some operations and procedures have been postponed.

The NHS is working to get people seen as quickly as possible but if you or someone you care for is waiting for treatment, you may have concerns or questions.

The new Greater Manchester [While You Wait Website](#) includes information on

- How to stay as fit and healthy as possible while you wait for your treatment
- Where to find any extra support online
- Where to find information about approximate waiting times at different hospitals
- What to do if your condition deteriorates

If you no longer wish to receive this email then please email bolccg.communications@nhs.net and we will remove you from our distribution list.

We will endeavour to keep you updated but as the situation is changing rapidly, you should check the national coronavirus guidance regularly.

The information in this is update correct at the time of issue. It is gathered from a number of sources including Bolton Council, CVS and Healthwatch.

