

Manx Care  
Noble's Hospital  
Strang  
Braddan  
Isle of Man  
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16 September 2021

Dear Colleagues,

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR FRONT LINE HEALTH AND CARE STAFF REGARDING YOUR COVID-19 BOOSTER and FLU VACCINATION**

***LINE MANAGERS IN MANX CARE - Please ensure that anyone who does not have access to email receives a copy of this letter as soon as practically possible.***

We have been following the developments in the UK around the roll out of the COVID-19 booster vaccine, in particular the recommendations from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), which have just been published. The JCVI has recommended that all booster vaccines administered will be based on an mRNA platform (either Pfizer BioNTech or Moderna) unless there is a clinical reason why an individual cannot receive one of these vaccines in which case the AstraZeneca vaccine will be used. The JCVI has also advised that, where possible, the seasonal flu vaccine can be administered at the same time.

As a member of staff working in a front line health or care role, you are more likely to be exposed to COVID-19 and/or Flu at work. Getting the COVID-19 booster vaccination and the seasonal flu vaccination should increase your protection against these viruses and may help to protect your family and those you care for too.

**We are inviting all frontline health and care staff to receive their Covid-19 booster and seasonal flu vaccine** through a series of drop-in sessions that will be held within the Chester Street Vaccination Hub. Appointments will not be given for these sessions. You should not attend for a Covid vaccination if you received your second dose vaccination less than six months ago as you will not be vaccinated. If your second dose was less than six months ago and you fall outside of the drop-in clinic times, you will receive an appointment to attend the Chester Street Hub to coincide with it being six months after your second dose. In this case you should not delay getting your flu vaccine, which you can get via your GP or local Community Pharmacy.

Next week's drop-in sessions will be held as follows:

- Friday 24 September, 08:45 – 14:30
- Saturday 25 September, 08:45 – 14:30
- Sunday 26 September, 08:45 – 14:30
- Tuesday 28 September, 08:45 – 14:30
- Thursday 30 September, 14:45 – 20:00
- Saturday 02 October, 08:45 – 14:30
- Sunday 03 October, 08:45 – 14:30

You will need to bring your work ID or proof of employment to the appointment, along with a completed consent form which is available [here](#) or via <https://covid19.gov.im/vaccination-information/> under Consent Forms.

Frequently Asked Questions are available by accessing <https://covid19.gov.im/vaccination/frequently-asked-questions-about-the-vaccine/> where there is a wealth of other information also available.

If you have any immediate questions or concerns about the vaccine:

- a) If you are employed with Manx Care, please contact the Occupational Health team by email at Frontline COVID-19 Vaccination Enquiries ([frontlinecovid19@gov.im](mailto:frontlinecovid19@gov.im)). They will aim to respond within two working days.
- b) If you are in a health and care organisation that works alongside Manx Care, please contact your employer directly in line with your organisation's policy arrangements. Your contact will be your own Occupational Health provider or your GP.

As we continue to manage the impact of Covid-19 on our patients, residents and service users, it is important to ensure that as a health and social care workforce, we continue to protect ourselves and those we care for as we enter the winter period.

Like 2020, everyone has gone the extra mile to ensure the safety of our clients and, on behalf of the Board of Manx Care, I would like to thank every one of you for your efforts this year.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Radford  
Director of Operations  
Manx Care

## What to expect at your appointment

On arrival you will be met by a member of the team who will initially verify that there is a gap of six months or more between your second dose and booster vaccine. The staff member will explain the process with you and will confirm your consent to be given the vaccines. Once we have your consent, you will be taken to a vaccinator who will administer the two vaccines into each of your upper arms. It is important that the vaccinator has easy access to your upper arms, so please ensure that you wear a short sleeved loose fitting top, e.g. a short sleeved T Shirt or similar.

Following your vaccination, it is important that you remain with the team for 15 minutes to allow for observation for 15 minutes.

Indications are that some vaccine recipients may experience a painful heavy arm where they had the injection and may feel tired or have a mild fever for a couple of days. These are common side effects following vaccination. If required paracetamol may help to reduce these effects and keep you as comfortable as possible.

In order that you are fully informed before deciding to register for a vaccination, please read the product information for more details on the vaccine here - <https://coronavirusyellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>. Should you suffer, or suspect you are suffering side effects, you may report these on the same website or by downloading the Yellow Card app.