

Core brief

Daily update

(21 May 2021, 3.20pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- World-First COVID-19 vaccine booster study launches
- New Guidance for the Health Assessment of Children and Young People with Down's Syndrome

NHSGGC leads on COVID-19 vaccine booster study

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's Research and Innovation team will soon be able to offer a third 'booster' COVID-19 vaccine to trial participants in a new clinical trial.

The trial will recruit 185 participants who were immunised early on during the vaccination programme. This includes health and care workers and those aged 75 and older. Participants will be adults aged 30 years or older.

The Cov-Boost study will be run at the Glasgow Clinical Research Facility – one of 16 sites across the UK. It will be the first in the world to provide vital data on the impact of a third dose on patients' immune responses.

The initial findings are expected in September and will help inform decisions by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation on any potential booster programme.

Vaccines being trialled include Oxford/AstraZeneca, Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, Novavax, Valneva, Janssen and Curevac, as well as a control group. The trial has received ethics approval by the NHS Research Ethics Committee, as well as approval from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency.

If you are interested in taking part, the study will be recruiting participants through the [NHS COVID-19 Vaccine Research Registry](#), with vaccinations set to start from the beginning of June.

New Guidance for the Health Assessment of Children and Young People with Down's Syndrome

Specialist Community Paediatric Teams have responsibility for the medical surveillance of children and young people (CYP) with Down's Syndrome.

To support staff, NHSGGC Specialist Children's Services (SCS) has published new clinical guidelines on StaffNet: [Health assessment of children and young people with Down's Syndrome Guidance for Healthcare Professionals, Paediatrics.](#)

Helen McLean, Practice Development/Visual Impairment nurse for NHSGGC said: "We recognised a need to standardise care for children with Down's Syndrome, whilst still allowing a person centred and individualised

approach, based on up to date best evidence. Although this guidance has been developed for clinicians within Specialist Community Paediatrics it is hoped that it will be helpful for anyone working with these CYP and their families.”

Helen continued: “It is recognised that CYP with Down’s Syndrome have a wide range of associated health problems, and a higher frequency of congenital and acquired medical conditions. Regular assessment, planning and co-ordination are key to ensuring the right support at the right time from the right people to meet these CYP and their family’s needs. By optimising children and young people’s health and wellbeing we aim to support them to reach their full potential.”

Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at:

www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the [FAQs](#) first. If you have any further questions, please email: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).

Are your contact details up-to-date? [Click here](#) to check