

Easy read: Covid vaccines in the winter or spring

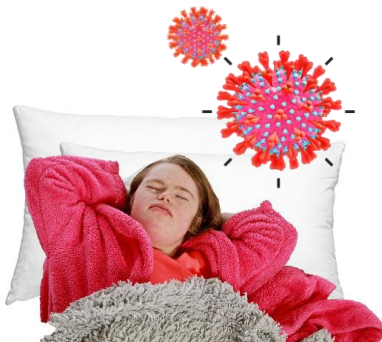


Every year, health experts decide who should get vaccines to protect against serious illness.

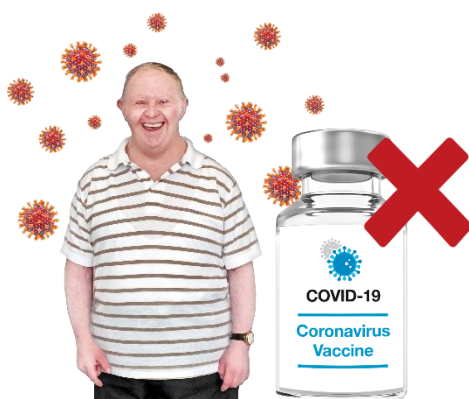


They have been looking at

- how many people are getting the COVID-19 virus



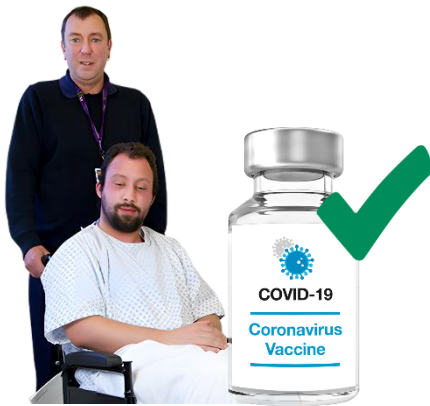
- how poorly they are getting



For most people who get COVID-19 it is now a mild illness.

This means fewer people need to have a COVID-19 vaccine.

Who can have a vaccine?



The COVID-19 vaccine will only be offered to people who are at the most risk of getting very poorly if they get COVID-19.

These people will be offered a vaccine:

- Adults aged 75 and over
- People who live in a care home for older adults



- People with weakened immune systems (their bodies don't fight infection well).

- This includes children and babies over six months old who have weakened immune systems.

People who are not in the groups listed above will not be invited for a COVID-19 vaccine.

This changed in 2025. Before that, more groups were included.



The person doing the vaccines will always check if you need the vaccine before giving it.



You can read about some of the ways you might have a weakened immune system online at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccine.



This website is not easy read.



Or you can look at the [easy read leaflet about Covid vaccines](https://www.england.nhs.uk/learning-disabilities/vaccines) online at www.england.nhs.uk/learning-disabilities/vaccines



If you are still not sure, you can ask a healthcare professional who looks after your care.

Why has it changed from other years?



The COVID-19 vaccination programme worked well.



This means that most people who do get COVID-19 now are usually not very poorly from it.

The flu vaccine



You might still be offered a flu vaccine even if you are not offered the COVID-19 vaccine.



Some people are likely to be very poorly if they get flu.



The flu vaccine is offered during autumn and winter to help protect people from the flu virus.

Getting information about your vaccines



If you are invited to have a vaccine it is important that you get it as soon as you can to stop you getting very poorly.



Ask a healthcare professional if you have questions about your vaccines.



You can read more about winter and spring vaccines on the NHS website online at www.nhs.uk/seasonalvaccinations



This website is not easy read.