Flu vaccinations

Your questions answered

**Who should get a flu vaccine**

**Am I eligible for a free flu vaccine?**

These groups are eligible for the flu vaccine this year:

* all primary school children
* children aged 2 to 5 (children aged 2 on 1 September 2020 and not yet in school)
* anyone aged 55 and over (from December)
* anyone aged 18-64 in clinical risk groups
* those living with people who were shielding during lockdown
* pregnant women
* healthcare workers
* unpaid and young carers
* social care workers who provide direct personal care

**Where can I get a flu vaccine if I’m not eligible for a free one?**

You can pay for a flu vaccination at many community pharmacies.

**Why should I get a flu vaccine?**

With COVID-19 around it’s more important than ever to get the flu vaccine.

Flu is serious. Getting the vaccine will protect you, others and the NHS.

**Getting your flu vaccine**

The ongoing COVID-19 outbreak and the need to keep physical distancing means it is not possible for GP practices to give flu vaccines to everyone that should get one.

In Edinburgh, we will set up hubs around the city to give flu vaccines to all eligible people over the coming months. Doing this will allow us to vaccinate as many people as possible, while making sure we can maintain physical distancing and hygiene standards.

If you attend a GP appointment in person during the Fu vaccine season, you may be given a flu vaccine while you are in the practice, but you will not be able to make an appointment just to receive a flu vaccine.

**What do I do if I’m over 65, aged 18-64 and in a clinical risk group, pregnant, a carer or living with someone who was shielding during lockdown?**

You should attend a drive through clinic to receive your flu vaccine. Read on to find all the information you need to know.

If you cannot attend the drive through clinic, you have the option of receiving your flu vaccine at a local pharmacy. Go to [nhsinform.scot/flu](https://www.nhsinform.scot/flu) to find a pharmacy where you can get a free flu vaccine.

**What do I do if I’m 55-64?**

If you are aged 55-64, and are not in any of the above categories, you will get a vaccine in a later phase of the programme. We will update this information as soon as all the details are confirmed.

**What do I do if I have a child at primary school?**

Most primary school age children will receive the flu vaccine at school. For more information [visit NHS Inform](https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/immunisation/vaccines/child-flu-vaccine#primary-school-children)

**What do I do if I have a child who is 2, 3, 4, or 5?**

Children aged 2-5 will get their flu vaccines at special hubs around the city. We will update this information as soon as the details are confirmed.

**What if I have any questions?**

You can find more information about the flu vaccine process in Scotland at [nhsinform.scot/flu](http://www.nhsinform.scot/flu). You can also call **0800 22 44 88.**

**Walk through site information**

**Tollcross Health Centre**

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| --- | --- |
| Address | Tollcross Health Centre, 10 Ponton Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9QQ |
| Associated Practices | Gilmore Medical Practice, Leven Medical Practice, Polwarth Medical Practice |
| Who should use this site? | • anyone aged 65 and over• anyone aged 18-64 in clinical risk groups• those living with people shielding• pregnant women• unpaid and young carers. |
| Dates of walk through clinics | 3 October4 October10 October11 October |
| When should I attend? | You can attend on any of these dates. To help with queuing, we have allocated timeslots by surname. Please come at the time next to the first letter of your surname.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Time** | **First letter of surname** |
| 9 - 10am | A – B |
| 10 - 11am | C - D |
| 11am - 12noon | E - H |
| 12noon - 1pm | I – L |
| 1 - 2.30pm | M – N |
| 2.30 - 3.30pm | 0 – R |
| 3.30 - 4.30pm | S – U |
| 4.30 - 5.30pm | V - Z |

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| What should I do when I arrive? | * if you feel unwell or have a temperature, do not come to the walk through site. Wait until you are well and attend at a later date
* arrive on time - please don’t come early
* wear a short sleeved top under your coat or jacket if possible
* have your sleeve rolled up by the time you get to the front of the queue
* all eligible people from your household can come at the same time
* follow the signs
* before you receive your flu vaccine, you will be asked some questions to check it’s safe for you to get the vaccine
* please let us know if you’ve had a reaction to a vaccination in the past
* you may have to wait in a queue for a while, please be patient
* after you have received your flu vaccine, please take a seat in the space set aside and wait for 15 minutes before you leave.
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| What else do I need to know? | * there are no toilet facilities available
* the team giving the vaccinations are trained professionals who will be wearing protective clothing and equipment to protect both you and them
* the systems we’ve put in place will get people vaccinated as safely and quickly as possible
* if you feel unwell after receiving your flu vaccine, please let one of the team know as soon as possible.
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