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COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy: vaccinator checklist

[JCVI guidance of 30 December](#) stated that while 'there is insufficient evidence to recommend routine use of COVID-19 vaccines during pregnancy', the available data does not indicate any safety concern or harm to pregnancy and that vaccination should be considered where:

- 'The risk of exposure to COVID-19 is high and cannot be avoided', or;
- A woman has 'underlying conditions that put them at very high risk of serious complications of COVID-19'.

In summary, currently vaccination should be offered to:

1. Pregnant women who are frontline health and social care workers, and who are either Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) or whose risk of exposure is considered high and unavoidable (JCVI Cohorts 1 and 2).
2. Pregnant women who are considered [CEV](#) as identified in their medical records, or the [COVID-19 Population Risk Assessment](#) (JCVI Cohort 4).
3. Pregnant women aged 16 to 65 and in an at-risk group (JCVI Cohort 6 set out in [PHE's Green Book](#)).

The following checklist should be used by health professionals obtaining consent at vaccination sites for all women of childbearing age:

- Ask whether the woman is or might be pregnant. Record the response in the vaccination data system.
- If the woman is pregnant, or thinks she might be, give the woman the [PHE](#) and [RCOG](#) information leaflets. Offer pre-vaccination counselling on the potential benefits and risks of vaccination in line with the PHE and RCOG documents so that the woman has the opportunity to make an informed decision about her vaccination on-site.
- If the woman is unsure whether she is pregnant and has concerns about this, she may wish to consider confirming pregnancy status prior to making a decision. JCVI does not advise routine pregnancy testing before receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- If the offer of vaccination is accepted, record that informed consent has been obtained before administering the vaccine. Signpost women to the MHRA's [Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor](#) information.
- If the woman has any further questions or concerns that she would like to resolve before consenting to vaccination, follow the local pathway to obtain immediate advice, or refer the woman to a GP, or a healthcare professional in her maternity service, for timely advice.