



## Possible methods to increase COVID-19 vaccinations at your service

### Before the vaccination clinic

- Run a residents' meeting so that clients can discuss any concerns they have and to reassure them the vaccine is safe. Are there any service users that have had the vaccine already, who would be willing to talk about their positive experience with other residents?
- Groundswell has created [Covid-19 Vaccine update](#) that has answers concerns around the vaccine. This document explains that every COVID-19 vaccine has gone through the same amount of testing, analysis, and regulatory process as all other vaccines before they are approved for use. This document also explains the vaccine will reduce your chance of getting seriously ill from COVID-19 and explains it is safe for use for individual's recovering from addiction or Muslim faith.
- Explain to residents that they may experience common side effects after having the COVID-19 vaccine. These include arm tenderness, feeling feverish, tired and generally unwell alongside headaches and nausea. **All these side effects are signs that the vaccine is working and your immune system is responding.** These side effects should not last longer than a week. If your symptoms get worse or you are concerned call NHS 111.
- Print out Groundswell's [Covid-19 Vaccine update](#) and give a copy to every service user.
- Make sure residents are aware of the time/ date the vaccinations are taking place.
- Play Lambeth Healthwatch's Covid-19 vaccine Q&A's video to residents, available [here](#). This video includes an explanation on how vaccines work delivered by GP Justin Hayes.
- **Ensure you have enough staff members on the day to help encourage service users to be vaccinated.**

### Timing/ room for vaccination clinic

- If possible, consider the timing of vaccinations. Breakfast time or afternoon? What time would be best for your service users?
- Consider the area you want to use for the vaccinations. Is there an area that service users congregate and is there a room close by that can be used? If your service is spread over several buildings, which would be the best place to encourage maximum take up on the day?

**Incentives** - Consider whether incentives would help encourage service users to have the vaccine.

- Can you provide vouchers for service users after they have been vaccinated?
- Can you provide a voucher for an additional meal at your service?



## Be aware of the facts surrounding the Covid-19 vaccination

The vaccine will reduce your chance of getting seriously ill from COVID-19. On the whole the risk of long-term side effects from the vaccine are much lower than the risk of COVID-19.

The World Health Organisation has provided a comprehensive list of the misconceptions surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine which is available [here](#). We all have a duty to check the facts surrounding any information we discuss with service users. Some relevant facts are included, with the link for an explanatory poster that can be displayed if needed:

FACT - [Drinking alcohol does not protect you from COVID-19](#) and can be dangerous.

FACT – [Spraying and introducing bleach or another disinfectant](#) into your body will not protect you against COVID-19 and can be dangerous

FACT – [Drinking methanol, ethanol or bleach does not prevent or cure COVID-19](#) and can be extremely dangerous

FACT – [Vaccines against pneumonia do not protect against the COVID-19 virus](#)

FACT – [People of all ages can be infected by the Covid-19 virus](#)

## After the COVID-19 vaccine

- Read through Groundswell's [After the Covid-19 Vaccine update](#), which explains residents will need to continue to follow Government guidelines even if they have had the vaccine.
- Anyone who has had the vaccine should be given a card which records the date and the name of the vaccine administered. This card should be kept safe to show the nurse returning to complete the resident's second vaccine.
- Your service may want to keep a list of residents that have had the vaccine for your own records/ database.