How are children with kidney disease affected?

- The UK Renal Registry continues to collect information every week from our UK paediatric kidney centres on children who test positive for COVID-19.
- To date, 44 children with chronic kidney disease have been reported.
- We collect information about whether each child has a transplant, is on dialysis, or hasn’t yet reached kidney failure. Similar numbers are seen across the 3 groups.
- Most children, including those on immunosuppression, will experience mild infection with COVID-19.

Children who are clinically extremely vulnerable are now being asked to shield

While the picture in children remains reassuring, we still advise that a small group of children may be at greater risk of severe infections from all illnesses including COVID-19 due to their kidney disease or treatment. This applies:

- If you have received a kidney transplant in the last 3 months
- For 4 weeks after starting high dose steroids (20mg+/day) together with another strong immune medicine
- If your kidney team says you are high risk

Guidance

- Please do not attend school.
- We recommend you take strict infection precautions including social distancing when leaving the house for exercise and avoiding people with symptoms of infection.
- Please seek urgent medical review if you are unwell. It is important to get your annual flu jab.
- Family members do not need to shield but should follow government guidance.

COVID-19 vaccination

- Clinical trials of COVID-19 vaccines are underway to look at safety and efficacy in children. Information from these trials is needed before children under 16 years are vaccinated.
- The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation recommends that young people aged 16 years or above who are clinically extremely vulnerable or who have underlying health conditions are included in priority groups for early vaccination.

If you have any questions about your or your child’s care, please speak to your kidney team.

Please stay at home Hands - Face - Space