

What are the current recommendations for vaccination?

- The majority of children and young people with CKD are not deemed to be clinically extremely vulnerable to coronavirus. Currently the vaccination programme is targeted at those most at risk of severe disease if infected. As children are at low risk they are not included in the current phase of vaccination. (RCPCH advice)
- The studies of the safety and effectiveness of the vaccines in those under 16 years have not yet been completed. (JCVI advice)
- It is important to adhere to current regulations, maintain social distancing, wear masks and regularly wash your hands in order to protect yourselves and others even after vaccination

Advice for young people aged 16 and over:

- Some people within this age group will shortly be invited for the vaccine because the Pfizer vaccine is licensed for young people 16 years and over. This risk of coronavirus in this age group has not changed. (BAPN advice)
- Young people 16 years of age or older who are clinically extremely vulnerable will be included in step 4 of 9 in the current vaccination phase. Only a very small number of young people this age with kidney disease would be considered clinically extremely vulnerable i.e. those within 3 months of a transplant, those who are within 4 weeks of starting high dose steroids in conjunction with other medicines that affect the immune system or those who for other reasons the clinical team consider to be at high risk. This group of patients is currently eligible for a vaccine. (JCVI advice)
- Young people 16 years of age or older who are on the national transplant list, about to be put on the national transplant list, or being prepared for a kidney transplant from a living donor, are recommended to receive the vaccine as per those who are clinically extremely vulnerable. (NHSBT guidance)
- We would recommend vaccination if possible pre-transplant to those 16 years of age and older but would not delay a transplant in order to vaccinate. The risk of coronavirus remains low and the benefits of transplantation are clear. (BAPN advice)
- Vaccination can be given after transplantation if it is not possible to vaccinate pre-vaccine. (JCVI advice)
- Young people 16 years of age or older who have chronic kidney disease stages 3-5, are on dialysis, have a kidney transplant or have nephrotic syndrome* will be included in step 6 of 9 in the current vaccination phase. (Green Book)
- We recommend that those who are invited to have the vaccine have it as per the JCVI prioritisation. (BAPN advice)

Advice for children and young people under 16:

- There is no data on vaccination in younger children, at this time. (JCVI and RCPCH advice)
- We expect that studies of the effectiveness of the vaccine in younger children will be completed later this year.
- Only those children at very high risk of exposure and serious outcomes, such as older children with severe neuro-disabilities and respiratory disease that require residential care, should be considered for vaccination at this time. (JCVI and RCPCH advice)
- We would consider that children with kidney problems, chronic kidney disease or who have kidney transplants without other health issues are not at a very high risk of exposure and serious outcomes and should therefore not be vaccinated until the studies in children have been completed (BAPN Advice).
- If your child has other health issues in addition to kidney disease then your own doctor will let you know if your child should be considered for the vaccine.



Footnote: *We interpret this to indicate nephrotic syndrome requiring active treatment i.e. continuous or repeated use of high dose oral steroids or maintenance immunosuppression.

References

[RCPCH advice](#)

[JCVI advice](#)

[NHSBT guidance](#)

[Green Book](#)

[More BAPN advice](#)

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