

Immunosuppressed – who qualifies for a 3rd dose?

- Green Book guidance:
 - JCVI advises that a third vaccine dose be offered to individuals aged 12 years and over **who had severe immunosuppression in proximity to their first or second COVID-19 doses in the primary schedule** (Box 1).
 - Most individuals whose immunosuppression commenced at least two weeks after the second dose of vaccination **do not** require an additional primary vaccination at this stage.
 - Individuals who had received brief immunosuppression (≤ 40 mg prednisolone per day) for an acute episode (for example, asthma / COPD / COVID-19) and individuals on replacement corticosteroids for adrenal insufficiency **are not** considered severely immunosuppressed sufficient to have prevented response to the primary vaccination
- Once 3rd Primary dose given, patient will be eligible for their 'booster' dose after a further 3 months (91 days)
- *This cohort will also become eligible for a further booster in April – awaiting further clinical guidance*

Immunosuppressed v CEV - Overlap but some differences

Immunosuppressed

- Green Book Box 1 and Box 2
- Box 1 – 3rd primary dose in 12+
- Box 2 – 3rd primary dose in 5-11s
- Primary or acquired immunodeficiency states
- Immunosuppressive treatment
- Chronic inflammatory conditions receiving immunosuppressive treatment
- High dose steroids
 - Eg
 - Leukaemia
 - Stem cell transplant
 - Biologic treatments
 - Methotrexate, azathioprine, mycophenolate

CEV

- Green Book Tables 3 and 4
- Patient cohorts at highest risk - to be prioritised for covid treatment
- Some but **not all** to receive 3rd Primary dose
- Eg
 - Genetic conditions
 - Cancer
 - CKD
 - Immune deficiency
 - Steroids, cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, mycophenolate
 - Rare neurological MS MND Myasthenia HD
- **Depends on individual circumstances at the time of 1st and 2nd dose**
- Sickle cell disease
- Haem malignancy
- Liver disease
- HIV

Some patients have been identified inappropriately using the COVID TREATMENT high risk criteria (CMDU Protocol Appendix 1) and turned away as they are NOT eligible for a 3rd primary dose

[COVID-19 Greenbook chapter 14a \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/87421/green-book-chapter-14a.pdf)