

## **Vaccination of Family, CHC and HCWs of BMT recipients**

Vaccination for health care workers (HCWs) who have direct contact with allogeneic blood and marrow transplant (BMT) and CAR-T recipients, should be immunised as per the National Immunisation Schedule and in accordance with joint guidelines recommended by: the European Group of Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT), the Centres for Disease Control (CDC), the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), the American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (ASBMT). This should also adhere to Trust guidelines.

### **Specific vaccination against varicella zoster should be considered as follows:**

The varicella zoster (VZ) history of all HCWs is usually discussed on day one of employment at OUH. Those who have a positive recall of the disease are classed as immune whilst those who are uncertain have serological testing, and if they are found to be non-immune, they are offered VZ vaccination as per Trust policy:

*All staff are screened for a history of past infection. Staff who have direct patient contact and non-clinical staff, who have regular patient contact, should be tested for varicella antibodies if they have not had past infection or are unsure. Any staff member who is not immune to varicella will be offered immunisation.*

**Varicella Zoster Virus Varilrix® or Varivax®** vaccination can be administered to adults and children  $\geq 12$  months old, who are not pregnant or immunocompromised, who have a negative history of VZ infection.

*Generic template letter to GP in word format is available on NSSG > BMT > OUH Only*

Schedule: 2 doses 4 - 8 weeks apart, ideally finishing no later than 4 weeks before the conditioning regime starts. If the vaccinee develops a post-vaccination rash post vaccination they should avoid close contact with BMT recipient's until all spots have crusted over or the rash has resolved.

### **Specific vaccination against influenza should be considered as follows:**

HCWs who have direct contact with BMT recipients is recommended annually during each influenza season (October to March). HCWs will be offered the vaccination each season.

## **COVID-19**

Healthcare workers should adhere to the Greenbook guidance on SARS-CoV2 vaccination.

The EBMT handbook states 'Healthcare workers should be vaccinated to protect the patients, but strict infection control measures need to be maintained since break-through infections occur.' (EBMT)

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### **References:**

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publications/PublicationPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_077717](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publications/PublicationPolicyAndGuidance/DH_077717)

Ljungman P et al. Guidelines: Vaccination of hematopoietic cell transplant recipients.

*Bone Marrow Transplantation* 2009, 44, 521 – 526

Joint guidelines based on recommendations by: the European Group of Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT), the Centres for Disease Control (CDC), the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), and the American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (ASBMT).

Oxford University Hospital NHS Trust, Trust Immunisation Policy, Version 4.0, 2011,

<http://ouh.oxnet.nhs.uk/OccupationalHealth/Pages/Default.aspx#>

The EBMT Handbook: Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapies [Internet]. 7th edition.

Carreras E, Dufour C, Mohty M, et al., editors.  
Cham (CH): [Springer](#); 2019.

[Greenbook chapter 14a \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

### Audit

These processes are subject to the OxBMT/IEC audit programme

### Author

Denise Wareham, BMT Coordinator, Version 1, 2011

### Circulation

NSSG Haematology Website

### Review

| Name  | Revision  | Date      | Version | Review date |
|---|---|-----------|---------|-------------|
| Denise Wareham,<br>BMT Nurse Coordinator  | New Document  |           | 1.0     | Sept 2014   |
| Denise Wareham,<br>BMT Nurse Coordinator  | HCWs<br>Intranasal influenza vaccine                                      | Sept 2014 | 2.0     | Sept 2016   |
| Denise Wareham, BMT Coordinator   | Minor amendments  | Feb 2017  | 2.1     | Feb 2019    |
| Denise Wareham, BMT Coordinator<br>Cristina Ovas, BMT Quality and Data<br>Manager | Minor amendments  | Jun 2019  | 2.2     | Jun 2021    |
| Denise Wareham, BMT Senior<br>Specialist Nurse                                    | Minor amendments<br>Intranasal influenza live<br>vaccination for children | Apr 2022  | 2.3     | Apr 2024    |
| Emma Goodwin, BMT specialist<br>nurse   | Removal of family and close<br>Household contacts.                        | Sep 2024  | 2.4     | Oct 2026    |