

Older adult vaccinations

Find out about vaccinations available to older adults in Northern Ireland, including who is eligible, when vaccines are offered and how they help protect against serious infectious diseases.

Who is this page for?

This page is for older adults, their families and carers looking for detailed information about vaccination programmes available in Northern Ireland.

Vaccinations as you get older

As we get older, our immune system can become less effective at fighting some infections. This means some infectious diseases can cause more serious illness and complications.

Vaccination can help protect you. The vaccines you are offered will depend on your age, health and individual circumstances. Vaccination is a safe and effective way to help protect your health and maintain your independence.

In Northern Ireland, older adults may be eligible for vaccines that protect against:

Seasonal flu vaccination

Read more, current eligibility, when it's offered, where to get it:

- [Flu vaccine | nidirect](#)

COVID-19 vaccination

Current seasonal eligibility and programme information can be found under:

- [COVID-19 vaccine | nidirect](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination - What to expect and translations | HSC Public Health Agency](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination - a guide for people with a learning disability | HSC Public Health Agency](#)

Shingles vaccination

Helps protect against shingles and its complications, including long-lasting nerve pain.

For information on eligibility, why shingles vaccination is offered, how to get vaccinated, visit:

- [Shingles vaccine | nidirect](#)
- [The shingles vaccine - to help protect you from the pain of shingles | HSC Public Health Agency](#)
- [The shingles vaccine - easy read information about the shingles vaccine | HSC Public Health Agency](#)

Pneumococcal vaccine

Helps protect against serious illnesses such as pneumonia, meningitis and bloodstream infections.

For more information on who is eligible, why the vaccination is important and how to get it:

- Pneumococcal Vaccine information (NI Direct Page) - not available
- [Pneumococcal vaccine - helping to protect against pneumonia, meningitis and other serious illnesses | HSC Public Health Agency](#)

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccine

Helps protect against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), which can cause serious lung infections in older adults.

For information on who is eligible, what RSV is, why older adults can be at increased risk and how to get vaccinated, visit:

- [Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) vaccine for older adults | nidirect](#)
- [Your guide to the RSV vaccine for older adults | HSC Public Health Agency](#)
- [Your guide to the RSV vaccine for residents living in a care home for older adults | HSC Public Health Agency](#)

If you have a health condition

Some people may be eligible for additional vaccinations because of a health condition, treatment or other risk factor, regardless of their age.

CTA: Find out about vaccinations for people at increased risk

- [COVID-19 vaccine - for people with a weakened immune system | HSC Public Health Agency](#)
- [Flu vaccine - People with illnesses or health conditions | nidirect](#)

How the Public Health Agency helps

The Public Health Agency supports vaccination programmes across Northern Ireland, monitors vaccine uptake and provides information and resources for the public and healthcare professionals.

Last reviewed

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Related content

- [Vaccination and immunisation overview](#)
- [Healthy ageing](#)
- [Long term conditions](#)
- [Screening for older adults](#)