

# COVID-19 VACCINE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I'm 70 years old or over, why am I getting the Astra Zeneca vaccine and not the Pfizer vaccine?

You

Nobody can choose which vaccination they will receive.

The aim is to have a safe and effective programme of roll out of the vaccination to ensure as many people are protected as quickly as possible, using the available resources.

COPNI

My 70th birthday is just before 31 March: which system will I be required to use? Will I be forgotten?

You

You haven't been forgotten.

If your 70th birthday falls on or before the 31 March, your GP will contact you to arrange vaccination. You don't need to contact them.

If your 70th birthday falls after 31 March, you can use the online booking system to book a slot at a vaccination centre.

COPNI

What about visits into care homes?

You

The guidance for care home visits is constantly under review by the Department of Health. The current guidance can be found at [doh-visiting-leaflet.pdf](https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/doh-visiting-leaflet.pdf) ([health-ni.gov.uk](https://www.health-ni.gov.uk)).

COPNI

I've had my two doses of the vaccination, what should I do now?

You

The COVID-19 vaccine has been shown to reduce the chance of you suffering from the COVID-19 disease.

Like all medicines, no vaccine is completely effective, so you should continue to take recommended precautions to avoid infection. Some people may still get COVID-19 despite having a vaccination, but this should be less severe.

It's important you continue following the most recent public health guidance to protect those around you.

COPNI

Why am I having problems accessing the online booking system for 65-69 year olds?

You

In the very first days the site was extremely busy. A telephone booking service is also available by calling 0300 200 7813.

COPNI

Why do I have to have two doses of the vaccine?

You

Immunity following a vaccination builds up over a period of time and the second dose of the vaccination is required.

COPNI

What happens if I'm transitioning from hospital or any other facility e.g. temporary admission into a residential setting?

You

You haven't been forgotten. Your GP or district nurse will be in contact with you to arrange the vaccine.

You don't need to contact them.

COPNI

Is the Astra Zeneca vaccine less effective?

You

Scientific assessment of the effectiveness of any vaccination is a continuous process.

The Astra Zeneca is a good vaccine.

COPNI

I cannot get to my GP or a vaccination centre as I don't have transport, or I've difficulties leaving my home.

You

You haven't been forgotten. Your GP or district nurse will be in contact with you to arrange a visit.

You don't need to contact them.

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