



Department
of Health &
Social Care

39 Victoria Street
Westminster
London
SW1H 0EU

To:
Visiting Professionals and Tradespersons in CQC homes

27 October 2021

Dear Colleagues,

RE: Vaccination as condition of deployment in CQC registered homes for visiting professionals and tradespersons

On 11 November 2021 regulations making vaccination a condition of deployment for care homes will come into force. This means that anyone working or volunteering in a CQC regulated care home must have received a complete course of a Covid-19 vaccination (not including boosters), unless they are exempt.

Any professionals visiting a care home such as healthcare workers, tradespeople and hairdressers will also be required to show they are vaccinated before entering the home. This includes staff who may work or volunteer in the care home on a part time or occasional basis to deliver non-care related services such as maintenance or activities. The vaccination requirement only applies to people who go inside a care home. Individuals who are not entering the building will not need to show vaccination status.

The condition does not apply to service users and their visiting friends or relatives, under 18s, members of the emergency services carrying out their duties, people who are providing emergency assistance, people undertaking urgent maintenance work and those who are visiting service users who are dying or experiencing bereavement. It is for the registered manager of the home to determine what would constitute an emergency for their own setting: we expect urgent maintenance assistance to only apply where there is a significant impact on the quality of care to residents or risk to life. Full operational guidance is available here: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination of people working or deployed in care homes: operational guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-of-people-working-or-deployed-in-care-homes)

Medical exemptions can be demonstrated through a temporary self-certification exemption letter until 24 December which can be found here: [Temporary medical exemptions for COVID-19 vaccination of people working or deployed in care homes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/temporary-medical-exemptions-for-covid-19-vaccination-of-people-working-or-deployed-in-care-homes). After 24 December exemptions will need to be demonstrated by the formal process. Individuals applying for a medical exemption can do so by phoning 119 and asking for an NHS Covid Pass medical exemptions application form. They will automatically get the results of their application by post 2 to 3 weeks after applying. This notification letter can be used by an individual to prove their exemption status and

pregnant women can also use MAT B1 certificates. More information can be found here: [COVID-19 medical exemptions: proving you are unable to get vaccinated - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-medical-exemptions-proving-you-are-unable-to-get-vaccinated)

It is the responsibility of the registered manager to confirm that those entering have correct proof of vaccination or exemption. However, you should ensure you and your staff have the correct proof or you may not be able to enter the care home. The registered care home manager may also request that this requirement is included in any contracts between the care home and your employer.

Kind regards,

COVID-19 Vaccines Consultation and Legislation Team



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