26 January 2021

**FAO all Practice Managers**

**COVID-19 Vaccinations – People living with HIV**

We are writing to let you know that the British HIV association have issued guidance on which priority tier people living with HIV should be offered Covid 19 vaccination.

We would be grateful if you can ensure that any patients living with HIV who are registered with your practice are offered the vaccination in accordance with this.

It is our intention to notify practices on an individual patient named basis where individuals meet the criteria for the extremely clinically vulnerable group (Tier 4).

A summary of the guidance from the British HIV Association is as follows:

**Priority tier 4**

* People with a CD4 count of less than 50
* People who have had an HIV related illness due directly to having poor immunity in the last 6 months
* People with a CD4 count between 50 and 200 who also have other health problems such as:

Non-severe lung condition (e.g. asthma, COPD, emphysema or bronchitis)
Heart disease (e.g. heart failure)
Diabetes
Chronic kidney disease
Liver disease (such as hepatitis)
A neurological condition (e.g. Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis or cerebral palsy)
Another immunosuppressive condition or medication (e.g. low dose steroids)
Severe obesity (a BMI of 40 or above)

**Priority tier 6**

* People well controlled on treatment with a CD4 count more than 50

Further information is available at <https://www.bhiva.org/SARS-CoV-2-vaccine-advice-for-adults-living-with-HIV-plain-english-version-update>

Thank you for your help with this

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The [www.hiv-interactions.org/](http://www.hiv-interactions.org/) website is very useful to check any potential interactions with his antiretrovirals.

2

Yours sincerely

Dr Consultant Physician

*The following website is accessible free of charge to check interactions with anti-retroviral medication:* [www.hiv-druginteractions.org](http://www.hiv-druginteractions.org)