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Welcome to the July Immunodeficiency UK newsletter!



Hello \$[FNAME]Customer[Guest]\$, we hope you are well and keeping safe as COVID-19 restrictions ease.

You may have seen on our social media that we have been busy advocating for those affected by immunodeficiency and encouraging others to continue taking simple steps to reduce risks, such as keeping a distance and wearing a mask.

Remember to keep yourself safe. Please do have a look at our website for '[Keeping yourself safe as restrictions ease](#)'.

Read on for further details about this, and everything else we have been working on this month...

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## JCVI announces COVID-19 vaccination plans for children with underlying health conditions

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has recently advised that children and young people aged 12 years and over with specific underlying health conditions that put them at risk of serious COVID-19, should be offered COVID-19 vaccination.

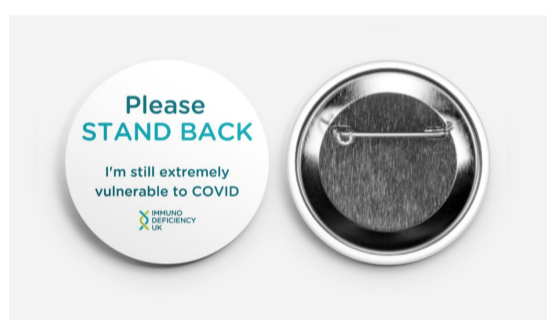
The JCVI has also advised that children and young people aged 12 years and over who are household contacts of persons (adults or children) who are immunosuppressed (this would include people with primary or secondary immunodeficiency who are clinically extremely vulnerable) should be offered COVID-19 vaccination on the understanding that the main benefits from vaccination are related to the potential for indirect protection of their household contact who is immunosuppressed.

They will all be offered the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine because it is the only one approved for use in children aged 12 to 17 in the UK.

Clear information on the potential risks and benefits of vaccination will be provided to the child and those with parental responsibility prior to vaccination. The Government has yet to announce when the vaccination programme will start. Immunodeficiency UK will keep you informed.

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## 'Please Stand Back' Pin Badges



Let others know you still need space.  
To request your free pin badge, please send your name and address to [jen.rush@immunodeficiencyuk.org](mailto:jen.rush@immunodeficiencyuk.org).

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## Survey: COVID-19 Vaccination hesitancy and side effects in Patients with Primary Immunodeficiencies



Immunodeficiency UK has partnered with IPOPI, ESID and INGID to launch a survey on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and side effects, as part as a joint effort in the frame of the clinical Working Party of ESID. This survey is anonymous and aims at gathering PID specific data on patients' perception and experience of the COVID-19 vaccination.

The survey will take 10-12 minutes to complete and the survey will be open until August 31st.

[Click here to take part](#)

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## Opticom Patient Recruitment

Opticom - an independent market research agency acting on behalf of a pharmaceutical company active in the development of treatments for rare diseases – is currently looking into devices used for subcutaneous infusions.

They are interested in hearing patients' views and opinions as users of infusion pumps to better understand the current needs and future expectations of patients who are / will use infusion pump. To be eligible for their study you need to be:

- Between 18 and 80 years old
- Receiving immunoglobulin treatment regularly to treat your primary immunodeficiency
- Using a mechanical pump for your subcutaneous infusions of immunoglobulin.
- Carrying out infusions yourself at home and for at least the last year.

If you fit these criteria, Opticom would like to invite you to take part in an in-depth interview – via Teams – which will take about 30 minutes depending on your answers.

To thank you for your time and engagement in the study, you will receive a remuneration of £30. Immunodeficiency UK will receive a donation too.

For any questions about the study, please contact Cécilia Nyholm, Project Manager at Opticom: [cecilia@opticom.se](mailto:cecilia@opticom.se)

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## The NHS needs plasma to make life-saving medications

This month NHS Blood and Transplant launched its first campaign for people to donate plasma for medicines over shortfall in donors due to lack of awareness

following 20 year gap.

The NHS needs 14,500 more plasma donors in the next three months.

Call 0300 123 23 23 to find out more and book an appointment.

Currently we are only aware of England actively seeking plasma donations and Immunodeficiency UK is asking Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland for information as to their plans.

[Find out more about plasma donation](#)

## Thank you to plasma donors!



*'Our son receives plasma and it felt so good to give some back!'*

Curtis made his first plasma donation earlier this week. He told us he found the process really easy. It only took 40 minutes and the staff at the centre made it a great experience.

Thank you, Curtis!

## Spread joy and support Immunodeficiency UK

You can now support our work when you buy greetings cards from the online charity card shop, Doodle Doo.

There are a range of designs for all occasions.



[Visit Doodle Doo Card Shop](#)

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