

[About Us](#)[Donate](#)[Get Involved](#)

Welcome to the March Immunodeficiency UK newsletter!



Hello Immunodeficiency UK member, we hope you are keeping safe and well.

Read on for our monthly news round up and, as always, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or comments.

'Living with Covid' plan announced

On the 21 st February our Prime Minister set out the ['Living with Covid'](#) plan. There is little in the plan that addresses the concerns of our community as a high-risk group. Among other measures, it has been confirmed that the legal requirement to self-isolate after testing Covid positive will be scrapped and from Friday 1 April, free universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing in England will end with limited symptomatic testing to be made available for a small number of at-risk groups. Immunodeficiency UK awaits news of the eligibility criteria, including whether this will also include household members, from the Government and announcements are to follow from the regional Governments. Free symptomatic testing will remain available to social care staff. [Further information](#) on the tests is on the government website.

Immunodeficiency UK in the news

Following on from the implications of the announcement of Covid-19 restrictions ending Immunodeficiency UK has been working hard to raise awareness of the situation of people with primary and secondary immunodeficiency are facing. We were pleased to get some traction in the media. Articles appeared in the [Telegraph](#), Evening Standard, and [Independent](#) newspapers and on [Upday UK](#), one of Europe's biggest news apps. Susan, our CEO, also took part in an interview on Polish Public Radio. This followed on from coverage on the BBC News at 1 and on the [BBC website](#).

We would like to give a big thank-you to Margaret Bennett, Gary Judd and Tom Pearman, who are all affected by primary immunodeficiency, for coming forward to help us by sharing their own personal story and views. Immunodeficiency UK can give lots of quotes and so on, but it is the real-life stories and opinion that journalists are after, and we cannot thank you enough.

Rare Disease Day



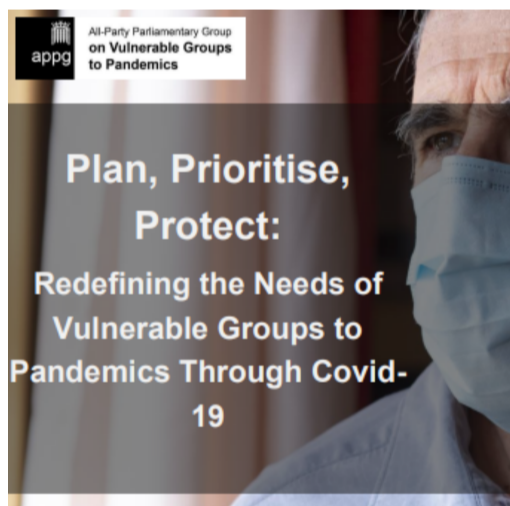
Monday 28th February was Rare Disease Day.

Rare Disease Day is the globally-coordinated movement on rare diseases, working towards equity in social opportunity, healthcare, and access to diagnosis and therapies for people living with a rare disease.

Rare Disease Day has taken place since 2008, and 15 years later it is as important to continue the conversation surrounding rare diseases.

Immunodeficiency UK marked the day by sharing stories on our social media.

Launch of Report from the APPG on Vulnerable Groups



The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Vulnerable Groups to Pandemics have launched their recommendations on how to better support people who are clinically extremely vulnerable during a pandemic: click [here](#) to view the recommendations. Do look and see what you think of the points raised.

Susan, our CEO, was delighted to be invited to speak at the launch event, chaired by Lord Mendelsohn, which took place on the Thursday the 24th February. She talked about the experiences of the community, what could have been done better (so much to cover), the concerns going forward with respect to the 'Living with Covid' plan and the need for access to vaccine alternatives such as prophylactic antibody therapies. The [British Medical Journal](#) covered the content of the meeting.

Webinar: Living with immunodeficiency, living COVID-19



The British Society for Immunology is pleased to collaborate with the COV-AD (COVID infection in patients with antibody deficiency) study, the UK Primary Immunodeficiency Network and Immunodeficiency UK to hold a free public webinar on 'Living with immunodeficiency, living with COVID-19' on **Thursday 10 March at 18:00–19:00 GMT**.

Book your free place [here](#).

Help us raise awareness this World PI week

World PI week is a global campaign that aims to raise awareness and improve treatment of PIDs. It takes place from the 22nd - 29th April, and we'd love for you to help us share the message.

We're inviting you to tell us what one thing you wish the world knew about living with a primary immunodeficiency. You can record a short video (less than 30 seconds) or send us a quote with a photo to jen.rush@immunodeficiencyuk.org. These will be compiled into a video campaign which we'll share across our social media.

The more voices we can gather, the more change we can make!

Branded Resources

We have a number of Immunodeficiency UK



branded resources available to help support you. Please email hello@immunodeficiencyuk.org if you'd like to request one of our radar keys, emergency cards or 'please stand back' badges.

We also have branded T shirts and vests, available to buy online [here](#).

Could you be one of our superstar fundraisers?



Our work is only possible thanks to the generosity of your donations, much of which comes from our wonderful supporters who go above and beyond to organise their own fundraising events.

From sports and physical challenges to crafternoons and bake sales, we love to see the amazing ways our community raises awareness and funds.

If you'd like to get involved by organising your own fundraising event, we'd love to support you! You can find loads of ideas and information on our [website](#), or email Jen: jen.rush@immunodeficiencyuk.org to find out more.

Take care and stay safe,
Best Wishes,
Susan & Jen,
The Immunodeficiency UK Team

Supported by an educational grant from Biotest (UK) Ltd



Facebook



Twitter



Instagram

© 2021 Immunodeficiency UK. All rights reserved | Registered charity number 1193166.

[Unsubscribe](#) [Privacy Policy](#)
