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Immunisation while
under the care of the
hospital



Patient information

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What is an immunisation?

Immunisation (also known as vaccination) is a simple, safe, and effective way of protecting you against harmful diseases, before you come into contact with them. It uses your body's natural defences to build resistance to specific infections. It makes your immune system stronger.

Immunisations train your immune system to create antibodies. This is the same as it does when it's exposed to a disease. Vaccines contain only killed or weakened forms of germs like viruses or bacteria. As a result, they do not cause the disease or put you at risk of its complications.

What is this service and who is it for?

Our hospitals are offering people accessing inpatient and outpatient services, the opportunity to receive important immunisations to protect their health through the Hospital Immunisation Service. This service is a 12-month pilot supported by NHS England. We are also working in partnership with Hertfordshire Community Trust. The immunisation nurse will visit wards and will also hold regular hubs for people to be referred into.

Where are the Patient vaccination hubs?

The hubs will be held on the following days:

- **Mondays and Wednesdays:** in the Acute Admissions Unit level 3 clinic room
- **Tuesdays:** (3 Tuesdays per month) in the specialist cancer team's office on the Princess Michael of Kent Block, level 4 (by the lifts)
- **Thursdays:** in St Albans City Hospital outpatients (morning) and Hemel Hempstead Hospital outpatients (afternoon)

The nurse will also visit wards.

What vaccinations are available?

Depending on eligibility, the following vaccines are available:

- Influenza
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
- COVID
- Shingles
- pneumococcal antigen
- Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR)

How do I get referred?

Your clinical team will refer you via the email on this leaflet. If you have any questions, you can contact the nurse via email. The nurse will also be able to direct you to your local immunisation services if you wish.

I am not sure about having a vaccine, but I would like to have some professional advice

You are welcome to email the immunisation nurse via email: hct.whthreferrals@nhs.net. You can request a call back. You can also attend one of the clinics for a discussion with the nurse.

How to contact us

Patient Immunisation Service

[Watford General Hospital](#)

Vicarage Road

Watford

Hertfordshire WD18 0HB

Tel: 01923 217309 (ext: 7309)

Email: hct.whthreferrals@nhs.net

Hospital switchboard: 01923 244366

PALS

If you need this leaflet in another **language, large print, Braille or audio version**, please call **01923 217198** or email westherts.pals@nhs.net.



Language



Large Print



Braille



Audio

Concerns, complaints or suggestions

If you are unhappy with your experience or would like to give feedback, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). PALS is available to patients, relatives, carers and friends to raise concerns.

For more information, please scan the QR code or visit our [website](#).

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