



Template letter to request Covid-19 vaccination

#MEAction UK, #MEAction Scotland and Action for M.E. have prepared a new template letter that people with ME who have still not received the Covid-19 vaccination can use to request prioritisation again.

Instructions: edit this letter to include the name of your GP or their practice, and your details at the end. You may wish to include further information about your specific situation.

Subject: New evidence shows I am vulnerable to Covid-19 and require vaccination

Dear *[GP or practice name]*

I would like to request that I be referred for inclusion in JCVI priority group 6 for the COVID-19 vaccination, due to my underlying health issues.

I have already been in contact with you about this issue, but new evidence from two national organisations demonstrates a significant risk of exacerbation of ME if I contract Covid-19.

In an [international survey](#), 76% of respondents with ME experienced an exacerbation of their ME symptoms after they contracted Covid-19. In over 66% of cases this exacerbation lasted longer than 6 months and was still ongoing.

The WHO classifies ME/CFS as a neurological disease and chapter 14a of the Green Book states chronic neurological disease as a clinical risk group for COVID-19 .

The Green Book also states the need "to take into account the risk of COVID-19 exacerbating any underlying disease that a patient may have, as well as the risk of serious illness from COVID-19 itself." Given that new infections are a significant cause of exacerbation or relapse of ME/CFS, I am concerned not only about the effect COVID-19 could have on me, but the impact it could have on my condition. This trigger is confirmed in section 1.6.4 of the [current NICE draft guideline for ME/CFS](#) and in the initial results from the survey highlighted above.

In Scotland, the [Chief Medical Officer has now confirmed](#) that clinicians may refer patients to be included in group 6, based on their clinical judgement, as the Green Book guidance is not exhaustive.

I believe this risk from my neurological condition should make me eligible to be included in group 6 for the vaccination.

I look forward to hearing from you,

[insert your name]

[insert your date of birth]

[insert your NHS number if you have it]