**Template Letter: refused covid-19 vaccines under priority group 6 as an unpaid carers**

Please use this letter to send to your GP surgery and/or local clinical commissioning group (CCG) if you have tried to register as an unpaid carer for covid-19 vaccines as part of priority group 6 as outlined in government and Joint Commission on Vaccine and Immunisation (JCVI) guidance.

Use this letter if you are:

* Refused a ‘carers flag’ on your medical record by your GP surgery
* Told you’re not eligible for the vaccine in priority group 6 as it’s ‘only for carers of disabled adults’, or the child/young person you look after ‘isn’t clinically vulnerable’
* Told you need proof of being on carer’s allowance

Use this link to find your local clinical commissioning group (CCG) responsible for health services in your area: [Find Clinical Commissioning Group services - NHS (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/other-services/Clinical%20Commissioning%20Group/LocationSearch/1)*)*

Dear *(Name of GP practice or local CCG)*

**Re: Complaint: Refused covid vaccines under priority group 6 as an unpaid carer**

I wish to make a complaint as I was told by *(insert name of GP/surgery)* that I’m not eligible for covid-19 vaccines as an unpaid carer in priority group 6.

The government's expert committee – the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JVCI) - revised its recommendations on 30 December to include unpaid carers. The [government guidance on priority access to Covid-19 vaccination](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-care-home-and-healthcare-settings-posters/covid-19-vaccination-first-phase-priority-groups)s also explicitly says unpaid carers will be offered the vaccine in priority group six alongside people aged under 65 with long-term conditions*: ‘Unpaid carers who get Carer's Allowance, OR who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill.’*
I’m an unpaid carer for my ***(son/daughter)*** who has ***(insert condition or disability)*** and therefore I should be offered covid vaccines as part of priority group 6.

I have been in touch with the charity Contact to check this information. Contact told me they had received clear assurances from government that work is taking place to identify all unpaid carers including parent carers like myself in priority group 6.

Contact advise that a 'carers' flag should be added to my medical records as this is one of the ways carers are being identified for the vaccines. A carers flag will also help you to make reasonable adjustments for my disabled child/ren when hopefully there is a vaccine for children in the future.

I appreciate this is a very busy time for GPs and everyone involved in the delivery of the covid vaccines programme, however I would be grateful if you could confirm that I will be added to group 6 and how I will be offered a vaccine in line with government guidance?

Thank you and best wishes

*(Insert your address and contact details)*

Copied sent to (insert name of clinical commissioning group)