



Coronavirus and People with Learning Disabilities Study Wales

What we know about vaccinations July 2021



This study is about coronavirus (also called COVID-19) and people with learning disabilities.



It is a study in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. We talked to nearly 600 adults with learning disabilities. **We talked to 183 people living in Wales.**



Nearly 300 family carers or paid supporters of people with severe or profound multiple learning disabilities also gave us information. **This includes 51 people in Wales**

COVID-19 vaccination



People with learning disabilities can now have the COVID-19 vaccination



The COVID-19 vaccination is 2 injections



90% of people with learning disabilities in Wales had had at least 1 COVID-19 vaccination.

30% of people with learning disabilities in Wales had had 2 COVID-19 vaccinations



About one in 12 people (8%) in our survey said that they had not yet had their first vaccination

Consent and the vaccination



Consent is saying 'yes' or 'no'.



Some people in our study had more severe learning disabilities and find it hard to tell people if they want the vaccination or do not want the vaccination.



They find it hard to say 'yes' or 'no'.



There are rules about checking whether people can say 'yes' or 'no'. These rules were followed for around 40% of the people with more severe learning disabilities.

Problems getting the vaccination



About one in 6 people (17%) of people with learning disabilities in Wales said it was hard to get the vaccination.



Some people with disabilities found it hard to get an appointment for the vaccination.

Some people with learning disabilities found it hard because their learning disability wasn't recorded in their notes.

Help to get the vaccination



Nearly half of people with learning disabilities (43%) told us something had been done to make it easier for them to have the vaccine.



Having family carers or paid support staff with them as they got the vaccination helped. So too did having the vaccination from people that helped them feel more relaxed and took their time



Having the vaccination where they lived or even sometimes having it sitting in their car helped

How did the vaccination make people feel?



Sometimes a vaccination can make people a little bit unwell or sore. About two thirds of people (64%) of people with learning disabilities said they had felt a bit unwell or sore. Many people had a headache, felt tired. Or had a sore arm.



Some people had difficulty sleeping.



Some people had an upset stomach.



Some people felt too hot or too cold.



Some people felt sick.

What happens next?



We are still talking with people with learning disabilities about COVID-19.

September 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

We will tell people what we found out in September

Research team contact details

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