

Covid Vaccination Service (Bath Pavilion) Volunteer FAQ sheet

Q – Who will we be vaccinating?

A- The Bath Pavilion centre has been set up by BEMS to provide Covid-19 vaccinations for the patients registered with 9 of the Bath City practices and Health and Social Care workers. This is a total population of around 90000. We will be working through the groups of patients in order, starting with the older and most vulnerable patients first

Q – Who are BEMS?

A- BEMS is the local GP federation linking together all the General Practices across B&NES. It is a not-for-profit organisation and every practice in the area is a member of BEMS. We are based in Bath and work to support practices and their staff to look after their patients.

Q- Am I at any greater risk to catch Covid?

A- No you should not be at any greater risk of catching Covid whilst volunteering at the vaccination centre. Those who are attending should not have had any symptoms or illness for 4 weeks prior to attending. You will be provided with facemask which will always need to be worn. Social distancing measures will always be in place, except if mobility aid is required.

Q - Will I need to be Covid tested before a shift or have my temperature checked?

A- No you will not need to complete a Covid test before a volunteer shift at the vaccination centre but your temperature will be checked before the start of each shift.

If any at time you become unwell and show any signs of Covid symptoms prior to a shift, please do not attend and notify us as soon as possible. Should you begin to feel unwell whilst on shift, please notify the supervisor on shift straight away.

Q -Will I be classed as an essential worker?

A- Yes, volunteers are classed as essential.

Q- Will Personal Protective Equipment be provided?

A- Yes, PPE will be provided at the start of each session suitable for the role you will be doing. This may include, face mask, gloves, apron.

Q- Will there be access to facilities such as toilets and water?

A-Yes, toilets will be available for all volunteers on site as well as water and tea and coffee.

Q- Will there be a safe area to store my valuables?

A- Yes, there will be a designated area for you to store personal belongings. Please refrain from bringing anything of value that is unnecessary on to the vaccination site. Please only bring essential items with you.

Q- Will there be parking?

A- Yes, free parking will be available for any volunteers driving themselves to the centre. Further details will be given prior to your shift.

Q- Will social distancing measures be in place?

A- Yes social distancing measures will be in place to ensure the safest possible environment for all those on site. You may at times be required to assist those you are physically frail or have mobility issues, but Personal Protective Equipment will be provided to ensure safety for yourself and the vaccine attendee.

Q- Will I need to help patients who may have mobility issues?

A- Yes, you may at times be required to assist others who are physically frail or have mobility issues.

Q- Will there be uniforms?

A- There will not be set uniforms for the volunteers on site, but you will be provided with a vest/tabard to wear over your personal clothing. Please wear comfortable warm clothing and appropriate footwear.

Q- What do I need to bring with me?

A- Please bring the following with you: face covering, warm clothing, appropriate footwear and a waterproof coat

Q- Will I be lone working at any point?

A- No you will not be lone working at any point.

Q- How long is a shift and do I get a break?

A- Shifts are approximately 4.5 hours long, with a short break halfway through. You may also swap roles during the shift with another volunteer

Q- Do I need to have any security checks done e.g. DBS?

A- No, you will not need to have any security checks done but will need to provide a copy of two forms of identification.

Q- Will I be expected to do any clinical work at any time?

A- No, you will not be expected to undertake any clinical work. All volunteer roles will be stewarding roles. A full briefing will be given on your first shift.

Q - Will I need to fill in any paperwork?

A- You will be required to fill out a volunteer agreement and confidentiality agreement electronically before commencing any shifts. You will be provided with this through your employer if you are volunteering on behalf of your organisation or from a BEMS employee if you are an individual volunteer. Everyone will also be provided with a feedback form.

Q- Will I be volunteering inside or outside?

A- There are both inside and outside roles for those volunteering. However, there will be extended periods of time where you may be outside or close to open doors. Please wear warm clothing and bring an additional layer should you need it, such as a waterproof

Q- Will I do a one-off shift, or will this be on a rota system?

A- You can volunteer for as many shifts as you would like or are able to do, but only one per day. We greatly appreciate any flexibility.

Q- How do I sign up to shifts?

A- If you are volunteering as part of an organisation then please contact the lead person in your organisation. If you are volunteering as an individual then please contact Rhiannon (Rhiannon.champion@nhs.net)

Q- Who do I contact if I can no longer make a shift due to an emergency?

A- If you are volunteering on behalf of your organisation then please notify your employer in the first instance. For individuals, please contact Rhiannon Champion at BEMS on bsccg.volunteers@nhs.net . Should you not be able to reach Rhiannon then please contact the main BEMS office on 01225 560806 or bems.adminoffice@nhs.net

Q- I do not drive, can I arrive on public transport?

A- Yes, you are able to arrive on public transport