

## COVID – 19 vaccinations: JCVI groups for Patients with IBD

### Introduction

- The rapid roll out of COVID-19 vaccinations is a major logistical challenge placing significant pressures on healthcare.
- The joint committee on vaccination and immunisation (JCVI) has issued a hierarchical list outlining groups for priority vaccination.
- It can be difficult to correctly assign the correct JCVI group for people with IBD as this depends on disease activity and treatment and can fluctuate over time.

### British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG) Risk Grid

In the first phase of COVID the BSG develop a grid of perceived risk based on activity and treatment for IBD. It outlined three broad categories that now transfer to JCVI vaccination groups

This is not based on age or other co morbidities and if these place the individual in to a higher group then this would take precedence. The broad groups are in the table below.

Risk Grid Category	Main Features	JCVI Vaccination category
Highest risk -Shielding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Oral steroids <math>\geq 20</math>mg od</li><li>2. Started biologic/steroid with last 6 weeks</li><li>3. Continued active disease despite treatment</li><li>4. Short gut/on TPN</li></ol>	4
Moderate risk -Stringent social distancing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. On biologics or immunomodulators</li><li>2. Prednisolone &lt; 20mg od</li></ol>	6
Low risk -social distancing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. No active disease</li><li>2. 5ASA</li><li>3. Anti-diarrhoeals</li></ol>	General population

The full risk grid can be seen at <https://www.bsg.org.uk/covid-19-advice/bsg-advice-for-management-of-inflammatory-bowel-diseases-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

### Other Resources

There is a very useful tool that patients can use to define their risk category and this can be found at <https://ibdregistry.org.uk/covid-19/>

The BSG statement on COVID vaccination in people with IBD can be found at <https://www.bsg.org.uk/covid-19-advice/british-society-of-gastroenterology-inflammatory-bowel-disease-section-and-ibd-clinical-research-group-position-statement-on-sars-cov2-vaccination/>

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