

<b>Reference:</b>	FOI.14159.24
<b>Subject:</b>	Covid-19 booster inoculations
<b>Date of Request:</b>	7 April 2024

**Requested:**

I attach here to copy of article published online by Tivyside Advertiser 7 April 2024.

I have noted the content. I am surprised to learn that Hywel Dda University Health Board [HDUHB] has launched a programme - extending from 2 April 2024 to 30 June 2024 - to roll-out Covid 19 booster inoculations, particularly as the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency [MHRA] has identified Myocarditis as a known adverse serious and fatal reaction following national roll-out of the mRNA Covid 19 inoculations. An abstract from MHRA "Public Assessment Report" is reproduced below in indented italic text.

*"There is an increased risk for myocarditis and pericarditis following vaccination with Spikevax. These conditions can develop within just a few days after vaccination and have primarily occurred within 14 days. They have been observed more often in younger males, and more often after the second dose compared to the first dose (see section 4.8). Available data indicate that most cases recover. Some cases required intensive care support and fatal cases have been observed. Healthcare professionals should be alert to the signs and symptoms of myocarditis and pericarditis. Vaccinated individuals should be instructed to seek immediate medical attention if they develop symptoms indicative of myocarditis or pericarditis such as (acute and persisting) chest pain, shortness of breath, or palpitations following vaccination. Healthcare professionals should consult guidance and/or specialists to diagnose and treat this condition."*

Additional information is available in a letter dated 11 December 2023 from the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Pandemic Response and Recovery [A P P G] to Steve Brine MP, Health and Social Care Committee. The open letter is available at the following hyperlink.

<https://appgpandemic.org/news/second-mhra-letter>

In view of the information now available in the public domain relating to Myocarditis, I would be grateful if HDUHB could provide the following information from your records.

1. Information confirming the **safety** and **efficacy** of the Covid 19 booster inoculation being rolled-out in HDUHB area in Spring 2024.
2. Details of the which **mutation** of the original SARS-CoV-2 virus the booster is targeting.
3. Details of the information being provided to "vaccine" recipients to enable them to take an informed decision on whether they wish to receive the Covid 19 booster in Spring 2024.

**Response:**

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) can confirm that details of the safety and efficacy of the Covid-19 booster inoculation being rolled out during Spring 2024 are contained within the Welsh Health Circular (WHC) COVID-19 spring booster 2024 (WHC/2024/009) and associated information from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) statement published on 7 February 2024.

The UHB follows the Welsh Government (WG) policy as set out in the WHC based on advice issued by the JCVI. All information and advice updates provided by the JCVI are reflected

within the Green Book which is the guidance issued by HM Treasury on vaccines for vaccine-preventable diseases in the UK . For ease, I have provided the following links to these documents for your information. Further information around the safety and efficacy of the Covid-19 booster inoculation can be found on pages 11 – 13 of the Green Book.

[COVID-19 spring booster 2024 \(WHC/2024/009\) | GOV.WALES](#)

[JCVI statement on COVID-19 vaccination in spring 2024 and considerations on future COVID-19 vaccination, 4 December 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[COVID-19: the green book, chapter 14a - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

2. The Covid-19 spring booster being rolled out in 2024 is targeting the XBB strain of Covid-19.
3. UHB staff at our vaccine centres and GP surgeries are trained prior to each vaccination campaign, and they have available the information provided through the Green Book.

Staff have a consent conversation with each individual regarding their eligibility for vaccine. They also provide information on the vaccine being offered, alongside a patient information leaflet, which is accessible via the Public Health Website. For ease, I have included a link below.

<https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/immunisation-and-vaccines/covid-19-vaccination-information/eligibility-for-the-vaccine/>