



International “living” report: Long-Term Care and COVID-19 vaccination, prioritization and data

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Itccovid.org

This document is available through the website [Itccovid.org](#), which was set up in March 2020 as a rapidly shared collection of resources for community and institution-based long-term care responses to Covid-19. The website is hosted by CPEC at the London School of Economics and Political Science and draws on the resources of the International Long Term Care Policy Network.

Corrections and comments are welcome at s.e.lauter@lse.ac.uk. This document was last updated on 4th January 2021 and may be subject to updates and revision.

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1. Key points

- This report aims to provide an overview of progress in the delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations to people who use and provide long-term care. It is a “living report” that will be updated regularly, please email s.e.lauter@lse.ac.uk if you would like to contribute.
- The report shows data for populations that either use and provide long-term care or are likely to do so.
- On the 4th January we have found data on COVID-19 vaccinations in care homes for 5 countries, according to these data, the share of all vaccinations provided to people living and or working in care homes ranges from 6% in Italy (and 7% in the United States) to 73% in Croatia.
- Initial review of prioritization documents shows that care home residents and personnel are consistently listed among the group with the highest priority. Care partners and family members of residents and unpaid carers of people living in the community are not explicitly mentioned.
- There are few mentions of people living with dementia or people with learning disabilities.

2. Introduction

This document will gather data on the COVID-19 vaccine rollout among people who use and provide long-term care. The aim is to update this document regularly and collaboratively, expanding the countries covered. Please email s.e.lauter@lse.ac.uk if you would like to provide information on your country or if you would like to be involved in future versions of the report.

3. Data on COVID-19 vaccination doses among people who use and provide Long-Term Care

Table 1. Data on COVID-19 Vaccination rollout in groups that use or provide long-term care and older people

	Total doses of vaccine administered	% who are older people	% who are Care Home Residents	% who are Care Home Personnel	Other Notable Populations
Austria	6,000 ¹	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Costa Rica	2,455 ²	N.A.	26%	4%	N.A.
Croatia	7,864 ³	N.A.	73%	N.A.	N.A.
Denmark	46,975 ⁴	50% aged 60 + 27% aged 80 +	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

¹ Data from 30 December 2020. Source: <https://www.sozialministerium.at/Corona-Schutzimpfung/Corona-Schutzimpfung.html>

² Data from 3 January 2021. Source: [CCSS | Noticias](https://ccss.lse.ac.uk/noticias)

³ Data from 30 December 2021. Source: [Government of the Republic of Croatia - Government approves 120 million HRK aid for areas hit by earthquakes](https://www.government.hr/en/news/government-approves-120-million-hrk-aid-for-areas-hit-by-earthquakes)

⁴ Data from 4 January 2021. Source: <https://covid19.ssi.dk/overvagningsdata/vaccinationstilslutning>

Germany	265,986 ⁵	24% ⁶	43% ⁴	N.A.	Prioritised workers 46%
Italy	105,870 ⁷	23% aged 60 + 4% aged 80 +	6%	N.A.	N.A.
United Kingdom	944,539 ⁸	67% aged 80 + ⁹	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
United States of America	4,225,756 ¹⁰	N.A.	7% ¹¹	N.A.	N.A.

4. Prioritisation of people who use and provide Long-Term Care for COVID-19 vaccinations

As countries began approving major pharmaceutical companies' COVID-19 vaccines in early December, the question of which populations would be first (and second and third) to receive them loomed large. LTC Covid has begun reviewing the prioritization plans of different countries with a particular focus on the language regarding long-term care residents, carers, and personnel (see Table 2).

In terms of priority trends (i.e. those whom councils typically declare "Group 1" sub-populations), we find long-term care **residents** and **personnel** consistently listed, while **partners/families** of residents and **unpaid/at-home carers** are not explicitly mentioned. We also note that those deemed **clinically vulnerable** are amongst the top-prioritized, but there is little mention of those receiving long-term care for neurological illnesses (e.g. dementia, Alzheimer's) and people with learning disabilities. It is rare to find explicit mention of those receiving at-home and outpatient long-term care.

Table 2. Long-Term Care Group Prioritization (Based on Countries' Advisory Council Reports)

	Older People (typically 75+)	People living in Care Homes	Care Home Personnel	Care Partners of people who live in Care Homes	Unpaid Carers	Community LTC workers	People who use community-based LTC services	LTC workers (all)	Clinically vulnerable groups (i.e. comorbidities)	People with dementia, neurological illness	People with learning disabilities	Other Notable Populations
Australia	✓	✓	✓									✓ (indigenous communities)

⁵ Up to 4 January 2021, source: https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Daten/Impfquoten-Tab.html

⁶ % of people who are eligible due to age may also be care home residents

⁷ Up to 4 January 2021, source: [Ministry of Health](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/covid-19-vaccination-portal) COVID-19 vaccination portal

⁸ Up to 3rd January 2021, source: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/healthcare>

⁹ England, data up to 31st December, source: NHS England <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-vaccinations/>

¹⁰ Up to 2 January 2021, source: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations>, authors assume that total vaccinations data includes LTCFs

¹¹ Includes staff

Austria	✓(2)	✓(1)	✓(1)						✓(1)	✓(2)		✓ (staff in health care with high risk of infection) (1) ✓(2) (people working in critical infrastructure)
Canada	✓	✓	✓									✓ (indigenous communities)
Belgium	✓		✓						✓			
Estonia	✓	✓	✓						✓			
Germany	✓(1)	✓(1)	✓(1)	✓(2)	✓(2)	✓(1)		✓ (1)(2)	✓(2)(3)	✓(2)	✓(2) ¹²	✓ ¹³
Hungary	✓(3)	✓(2)	✓(2)			✓(2)	✓(2)	✓(2)	✓(5)			
Israel	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓					
Spain	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓			
United Kingdom	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓	
USA	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓			✓ frontline essential (non-medical) workers

Advisory Council reports are being regularly updated and adjusted to fit the real-time needs and crises of respective countries. Below is an ongoing summary (Table 3) with links to the reports by which Table 2 was formulated.

Table 3. List of Advisory Boards and Published Prioritization Plans (By Country)

Country	Advisory Board	Vaccine Rollout Priority Groups (Summary)
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¹² and staff supporting people with learning disability in residential and community/ domiciliary care settings

¹³ (1) staff in health care with very high risk of infection and those caring for people at greatest risk, (2) those at high risk and staff in public health services and relevant hospital positions

<p>Australia</p>	<p>Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI)</p>	<p>“The three priority groups identified by ATAGI are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Those who are at increased risk of exposure and hence being infected with and transmitting SARS-CoV-2 to others at risk of severe disease or are in a setting with high transmission potential. This includes health and aged care workers; other care workers, including disability support workers; and people in other settings where the risk of virus transmission is increased, which may include quarantine workers. -Those who have an increased risk, relative to others, of developing severe disease or outcomes from COVID-19 including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, older people and people with underlying select medical conditions. -Those working in services critical to societal functioning including select essential services personnel and other key occupations required for societal functioning.” <p>Read the full report here.</p>
<p>Austria</p>	<p>Bundesministerium Soziales, Gesundheit, Pflege und Konsumentenschutz</p>	<p>On 26 December 2020 the Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and consumer protection published the COVID-19 vaccine prioritization recommendations development by the national vaccination committee.</p> <p>In the first phase people with the highest priority including residents and staff in care and nursing home, staff in health care sector with high risk of exposure and people aged 80 years and older.</p> <p>The second phase will include people with existing illnesses (including dementia) and their closes contacts (especially of those living in residential care settings), domiciliary care workers, people aged 75 to 79 years.</p> <p>The full strategy providing an overview of the seven priority groups is available here, in German.</p>
<p>Belgium</p>	<p>Government Commission On Coronavirus</p>	<p>Published in July 2020, The Superior Health Council of Belgium advised prioritization of 1) workers in the healthcare sector (broadly), 2) people over 65 years of age, and 3) people with higher risk due to comorbidity (e.g. cancers, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes).</p> <p>On December 3rd, the COVID-19 Task Force produced a vaccination rollout strategy available here, in Dutch.</p>

Canada	National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI)	<p>“-Residents and staff of shared living settings that provide care for seniors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Adults 70 years of age and older, with order of priority: beginning with adults 80 years of age and older, decreasing the age limit by 5-year increments to age 70 years as supply becomes available. <p>-Health care workers who have direct contact with patients, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -those who work in health care settings -personal support workers <p>-Adults in Indigenous communities.</p> <p>As additional COVID-19 vaccine(s) and supplies become available, the following populations should be offered vaccinations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Health care workers not included in the initial rollout, -Residents and staff of all other shared living settings, such as: homeless shelters, correctional facilities, housing for migrant workers, essential workers who face additional risks to maintain services for the functioning of society.” Read the full statement here (modified Dec. 8, 2020), and NACI’s preliminary report here (modified Nov. 3, 2020).
Estonia	Ministry of Social Affairs	<p>Notice from the Ministry of Social Affairs (3rd January 2021): Priority is for health professionals and healthcare professionals, nursing home staff and residents, people over 70 years of age, and people with health conditions that increase their vulnerability to COVID-19. Vaccination to other target groups and the general population will take place as soon as sufficient COVID-19 vaccines become available.</p>
Germany	Standing Committee on Vaccination (STIKO), German Ethics Council, The National Academy of Science Leopoldina	<p>The initial position paper produced by the advisory committee in November 2020 is linked here (in English).</p> <p>The rollout plan beginning January 2021 is linked here in German.</p> <p>A summary of the German vaccination strategy can be found on LTC Covid’s Blog here. From the summary:</p> <p>“The German Federal Ministry of Health emphasises that high risk groups and medical staff will be among those who will be given first access to the vaccination once it becomes available. It specifically lists: 1) people living in care and nursing homes; 2) people aged 80 years and older; 3) staff working in health care settings with particularly high risk of exposure (e.g. A&E, staff caring for COVID-19 patients); 4) staff in health care setting in close contact with groups at particularly high risk (e.g. Haemato-oncology, transplant medicine); 5) care workers in domiciliary and residential long-term care for older people; 6) others working in care in nursing homes in contact with residents.</p>
Hungary	National Public Health Centre	<p>National Public Health Centre: only people over 18 with a valid social security number who have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 6 months are eligible for vaccination, in the following order of priority:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health care professionals (started on December 26) 2. Residents and staff in care homes

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Law enforcement staff working in epidemic defence 4. People aged 60 or above 5. Younger people with chronic conditions 6. Critical infrastructure workers 7. General public
Israel	Ministry of Health	<p>According to the Israeli Ministry of Health's Coronavirus Information website, those first eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine were healthcare workers and individuals over the age of 60.</p> <p>Through a decentralized approach, long-term care institutions and nursing homes are amongst the top-priority vaccination sites. The Ministry of Health aims to have all nursing home and LTC residents and workers vaccinated by mid-January.</p> <p>More information can be found at this site.</p>
Spain	Ministry of Health	<p>"The following group prioritization has been established for the first stage:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Residents and health and social care personnel in care homes for older people and people with disabilities 2. Front-line health personnel. 3. Other health and social care personnel. 4. Dependent people with disabilities who require help from others (noninstitutionalized highly dependents)." <p>Last update of document setting out priorities (November 23rd, 2020).</p>
United Kingdom	Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunization (JCVI)	<p>The initial December report by JCVI is linked here, with continuous updates (last: December 31st, 2020) found here.</p> <p>Summary: "Nine Priority Groups, Primarily Based on Age:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Residents in a care home for older adults and their carers 2) All those 80 years of age and over; Frontline health and social care workers 3) All those 75 years of age and over 4) All those 70 years of age and over; those deemed clinically extremely vulnerable, etc... <p>A press release by the Department of Health and Social Care published on 4th January states that "GPs and local vaccination services have been asked to ensure every care home resident in their local area is vaccinated by the end of January."</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">USA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Center for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (CDC's ACIP)</p>	<p>"ACIP's ethical principles for allocating initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine, namely to maximize benefits and minimize harms, promote justice, and mitigate health inequities, support the early vaccination of 1) <i>health care personnel (HCP)</i> and 2) <i>long-term care facility (LTCF) residents</i>." December 3rd, 2020 statement here.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sub-prioritization details were updated December 23rd:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phase 1a (ongoing) includes healthcare personnel and long-term care facility residents.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phase 1b includes frontline essential workers and those aged 75+.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phase 1c includes those 65+, those with underlying medical conditions, and a broader definition of essential workers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A CDC Report on the importance of vaccinating LTCF Residents was published on December 28th.</p> <p>The National Governors Association has also released a report that looks at key themes, strategies, and challenges of COVID-19 vaccination plans in individual states and territories (December 9th, 2020).</p>
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For further investigation of vaccination rollout plan by country:

The [Our World in Data](#) site, which tracks weekly the announcements of countries beginning to vaccinate, has charted that 4.64 million people have been vaccinated globally as of December 28th, 2020.

[The Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker \(OxGCRT\)](#) is an ongoing collection of coronavirus pandemic policy responses from 180+ countries tackling issues related to travel, education, and healthcare administration.

The World Health Organization's (WHO) Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) produced a [values framework for the allocation and prioritization of COVID-19 vaccination](#) (September 12th, 2020) and [is currently making a request for information on vaccine rollout effectiveness and impacts](#).

The European Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (ECDC) [Overview of COVID-19 vaccination strategies and vaccine deployment plans](#) in the EU/EEA and the UK (as of December 2nd, 2020).

We are hoping to continuously update and curate the above tables to reflect various countries' rollout plans, specifically in regards to long-term care users and personnel. If you'd like to contribute information on your respective country, please contact us at s.e.lauter@lse.ac.uk.