

# Covid-19 Vaccination and Consent

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# Background

- Pandemic since March 2020 –Sars-CoV-2.
- Significant mortality in older and vulnerable people.
- Mortality of 27% in over 80ss in LRCF in 1st surge; approx. 12% in second surge.
- Vaccines developed rapidly with enormous international collaboration



# Purpose of Today

**Consent**

Consent and Covid-19 Vaccination

**Explain**

Explain principles of consent

**Consider**

Consider the practicalities of consent for those who lack capacity



## Specific Considerations

- No other person such as a family member, ‘next of kin’, friend or carer and no organisation can give or refuse consent to vaccination on behalf of an adult person who lacks capacity to consent unless they have specific legal authority to do so.
- Irish Consent Policy: *Decisions should be made in the best interests of the [person] bearing in mind the principles outlined above.*
- The Registrar of the Wards of Court has confirmed that there is no requirement to seek a Court Order or Court Consent for the administration of the vaccine.
- For individuals detained under the MHA 2001, the same principles of seeking consent also apply and detention does not preclude the need to obtain consent.

# Sources of Information

- <https://hse.drsteevenslibrary.ie/Covid19V2>
- <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/covid-19-vaccine-materials/covid-19-vaccine-information-leaflet-a4-version.pdf>
- <https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/hcpinfo/covid19vaccineinfo4hps/>



# Conclusion

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- This is a national emergency
- There is help available
- Ask a colleague if you are unsure
- We have all worked hard to do the best for the people we care for-helping with decisions about vaccination is part of that.
- **ALWAYS USE TRUSTED SOURCES OF INFORMATION**