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University Health Board

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

An open letter from Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB's COVID-19 vaccination team

Hi everyone,

We wanted to write to you all to update you on our COVID-19 vaccination programme.

We know - and we completely understand - that with the new Omicron variant in the UK, many of you are anxious to have your booster or second dose of Covid-19 vaccine. Following Monday's JCVI announcements, many of you want to know exactly **when** you will be having it.

This week's new guidance expands the booster programme to all adults (over 18) and recommends second doses for people under 18. It also reduces the period between second dose and booster from 26 weeks to 13 weeks (although 13 weeks is the minimum point you can be offered a booster, it does not mean you are overdue once that 13 weeks has passed).

It is a big expansion, it is complex, and there is only a short space of time for us to achieve everything.

While we plan for lots of different events and outcomes, we hear when changes are actually going to happen at the same time as you. When the JCVI or Welsh Government makes an announcement, we immediately start working on how we are going to implement the new guidance. We ask ourselves - do we need new vaccination centres? Where will we find new staff who are trained or can be trained to give vaccinations? Can we increase the number of appointments? All this involves a lot of people working long hours and working fast to make it happen, while keeping up the current rate of vaccine appointments.

We have been here before though. We have met, and exceeded every challenge so far in this huge vaccination programme, and, with your help, we will meet and achieve these next challenges.

We are determined to offer you your vaccines as quickly and as safely as possible. **You are our priority.**

We do need to ask for your patience as we implement these changes.

Since the national announcements were made the Health Board's phone lines (including our GP practices') and our social media channels have been overwhelmed with people wanting to know when their booster appointment is.

As we said right at the start of this letter we totally understand, and appreciate, this is an anxious time.

We are asking you to trust us.

We will contact you when it is your turn to come forward. If you have had your first and second dose, we have your contact details, **you will not be forgotten** and we will make sure nobody is left behind.

Please do not phone our booking phone lines, unless you need to cancel or rearrange an appointment. There is no need to contact us, or your GP, to ask about an appointment. You cannot book an appointment at this stage of the programme.

We would also ask that when you receive an appointment, you do your absolute best to prioritise and keep it. Due to the scale of this expansion, attending on the time and date you are booked in will really help us. If you are an employer in Cwm Taf Morgannwg, we also ask for your support if your staff have an appointment during their working hours.

We have already begun to book extra appointments, starting from Monday (December 6). We have added an extra 10,000 appointment slots to our schedules, and will continue to increase that number for the rest of this month.

This means you may get a text message from us rather than an appointment letter. It may be quite short notice. Our aim is to send out appointments in order of age and priority group, but due to the speed we are working at you may hear of a small number of people younger than you being offered their booster.

Some people have been sharing text message appointments with contact details. Please do not do this. If you contact us using information sent to another person, we will not be able to book you an appointment.

We hope this latest information helps.

We will keep you updated every step of the way through this.

Elsewhere in the vaccination programme, we are now sending out appointment letters for 16 and 17 year olds to come forward for their second dose. From next week, we will be doing the same for 12-15 year olds. We are continuing to work through our household lists, and we will get to you or your relative as soon as possible.

Remember, if you are, 18 and over, and still to have your first or second dose then you can walk-in to our community vaccination centres. You can find more information on our website here: [COVID-19 Vaccine Information - Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](https://www.nhs.uk/healthboards/cwm-taf-morgannwg-university-health-board/covid-19-vaccine-information)

Since day one of this vaccination programme, you have supported us. We thank you for that and for continuing to work with us to protect everyone in Cwm Taf Morgannwg. Vaccinations save lives.

Thank you.

The Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB COVID-19 vaccination team



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Llythyr agored gan dîm brechu COVID-19 BIP Cwm Taf Morgannwg

Helo bawb,

Rydyn ni am ysgrifennu atoch chi i roi'r diweddaraf i chi am ein rhaglen frechu rhag COVID-19.

Mae amrywiad newydd Omicron wedi cyrraedd y DU, felly rydyn ni'n gwybod – ac rydyn ni'n deall yn llwyr – fod llawer ohonoch chi'n awyddus i gael eich dos atgyfnerthu, neu eich ail ddos, o'r brechlyn rhag COVID-19. Yn dilyn cyhoeddiadau JCVI ddydd Llun, bydd llawer ohonoch am wybod **pryd** yn union y byddwch chi'n cael y brechlyn.

Mae canllawiau newydd yr wythnos hon yn ehangu rhaglen y ddos atgyfnerthu i bob oedolyn (dros 18 oed) ac yn argymhell rhoi'r ail ddos i'r rheiny dan 18 oed. Yn ogystal â hynny, maen nhw'n lleihau'r cyfnod rhwng yr ail ddos a'r ddos atgyfnerthu o 26 wythnos i 13 wythnos (er y dylech chi aros o leiaf 13 wythnos cyn cael cynnig y ddos atgyfnerthu, dydy hyn ddim golygu eich bod yn hwyr unwaith y bydd 13 wythnos wedi mynd heibio).

Mae'n hwn yn newid mawr, mae'n gymhleth, a dim ond amser byr sydd gyda ni i gyflawni popeth.

Wrth i ni baratoi ar gyfer llawer o wahanol ddigwyddiadau a chanlyniadau, rydyn ni'n cael gwybod pryd y bydd newidiadau'n digwydd yr un pryd ag y byddwch chi. Pan fydd y JCVI neu Lywodraeth Cymru'n gwneud cyhoeddiad, byddwn ni'n dechrau gweithio ar unwaith ar sut y byddwn ni'n rhoi'r canllawiau newydd ar waith. Mae hynny'n golygu ein bod ni'n dechrau gweithio ar unwaith ar sut rydyn ni'n mynd i roi'r cynllun ehangach ar waith. Rydyn ni'n ystyried a oes angen canolfannau brechu newydd arnom, ble byddwn ni'n dod o hyd i staff newydd sydd wedi eu hyfforddi, neu mae modd eu hyfforddi, er mwyn rhoi'r brechlyn i bobl, ac a oes modd i ni gynyddu nifer yr apwyntiadau? Mae hyn i gyd yn golygu bod llawer o bobl yn gweithio oriau hir ac yn gweithio'n gyflym i gyflawni hyn, a hynny wrth barhau i gynnig yr un nifer o apwyntiadau.

Rydyn ni wedi bod yn y sefyllfa hon o'r blaen fodd bynnag. Rydyn ni wedi goresgyn a rhagori ar bob her hyd yn hyn yn y rhaglen enfawr hon i frechu pawb, a gyda'ch cymorth chi, byddwn ni'n goresgyn yr heriau nesaf sydd o'n blaenau.

Rydyn ni'n benderfynol o gynnig eich brechlynnau i chi mor fuan ac mor ddiogel â phosib. **Chi yw ein blaenoriaeth.**

Fodd bynnag, mae angen eich amynedd wrth i ni roi'r newidiadau hyn ar waith.

Ers y cyhoeddiadau cenedlaethol, mae llinellau ffôn y Bwrdd Iechyd (gan gynnwys ein meddygfeydd) a'n sianeli ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol wedi cael eu gorlethu gyda phobl yn holi pryd bydd eu hapwyntiad i gael y ddos atgyfnerthu.

Fel y dywedom ar ddechrau'r llythyr hwn, rydyn ni'n ddeall yn llwyr, ac yn gwerthfawrogi bod hwn yn gyfnod pryderus.

Gofynnwn i chi ymddiried ynom ni.

Byddwn ni'n cysylltu â chi pan fydd eich tro chi'n cyrraedd. Os ydych chi wedi cael eich dos gyntaf a'ch ail ddos, mae eich manylion cyswllt gyda ni. **Fyddwn ni ddim yn anghofio amdanoch**, a byddwn ni'n sicrhau na fydd neb yn cael ei adael ar ôl.

Peidiwch â ffonio ein llinellau apwyntiad, oni bai bod angen i chi ganslo neu aildrefnu apwyntiad. Does dim angen cysylltu â ni, na'ch meddyg teulu, i ofyn am apwyntiad. Allwch chi ddim trefnu apwyntiad yn ystod y cam hwn o'r rhaglen.

Gofynnwn hefyd i chi wneud eich gorau i flaenoriaethu a chadw eich apwyntiad pan fyddwch chi'n ei gael. Oherwydd maint y cynllun ehangach hwn, bydd dod i'ch apwyntiad ar eich amser a dyddiad penodedig yn help mawr i ni. Os ydych chi'n gyflogwr yng Nghwm Taf Morgannwg, gofynnwn hefyd am eich cymorth os bydd apwyntiad gyda'ch staff yn ystod oriau gwaith.

Rydyn ni eisoes wedi dechrau trefnu apwyntiadau ychwanegol, gan ddechrau o ddydd Llun (6 Rhagfyr). Rydyn ni wedi ychwanegu 10,000 o slotiau ychwanegol at ein hamserlenni ar gyfer apwyntiadau, a byddwn ni'n parhau i gynyddu'r nifer honno drwy weddill y mis hwn.

Mae hyn yn golygu efallai y byddwch chi'n cael neges destun yn hytrach na llythyr apwyntiad gennym ni, ac mae'n bosib y bydd eich apwyntiad ar fyr rybudd. Ein nod yw anfon apwyntiadau yn nhrefn oedran a grŵp blaenoriaeth, ond gan ein bod yn gweithio mor gyflym, efallai y byddwch chi'n clywed bod nifer fach o bobl iau na chi'n cael cynnig eu dos atgyfnerthu.

Mae rhai pobl wedi bod yn rhannu eu neges destun am apwyntiad gyda manylion cyswllt. Peidiwch â gwneud hyn. Os byddwch chi'n cysylltu â ni gan ddefnyddio gwybodaeth sydd wedi ei hanfon at rywun arall, fyddwn ni ddim yn gallu trefnu apwyntiad i chi.

Gobeithio y bydd yr wybodaeth ddiweddaraf hon yn ddefnyddiol.

Byddwn ni'n rhoi'r diweddaraf i chi bob cam o'r ffordd.

Hefyd yn rhan o'r rhaglen frechu, rydyn ni nawr yn anfon llythyrau apwyntiad at y rheiny sy'n 16 a 17 oed i ddod i gael eu hail ddos. O'r wythnos nesaf ymlaen, byddwn ni'n gwneud yr un peth ar gyfer y rheiny rhwng 12 a 15 oed. Rydyn ni'n

parhau i weithio trwy ein rhestrau o gleifion sy'n gaeth i'w cartref, a byddwn ni'n eich cyrraedd chi neu eich perthynas cyn gynted â phosib.

Cofiwch, os ydych chi'n 18 oed neu'n hŷn a heb gael eich dos gyntaf neu eich ail ddos, gallwch chi gerdded i mewn i'n canolfannau brechu cymunedol. Mae rhagor o wybodaeth ar ein gwefan: [Gwybodaeth am y brechlyn rhag COVID-19 – Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Cwm Taf Morgannwg \(gig.cymru\)](http://gig.cymru)

Ers diwrnod cyntaf y rhaglen frechu hon, rydych chi wedi ein helpu ni. Diolch am hynny ac am barhau i weithio gyda ni i ddiogelu pawb yng Nghwm Taf Morgannwg. Mae brechiadau'n achub bywydau.

Diolch.

Tîm Brechu rhag COVID-19, Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Cwm Taf Morgannwg