FOI 2122142- campaign

NHS Calderdale CCG's response to your request can be found below.

I am writing from the Anaphylaxis Campaign, the only UK wide charity operating solely for the growing numbers of people at risk from severe allergic reactions and anaphylaxis.

We operate a helpline service and in recent weeks have been receiving an unprecedented volume of calls from people with complex severe allergy histories who were advised that they could only receive the Astra Zeneca vaccine for their first and second doses and are now very concerned at being called to have a Pfizer booster vaccine.

Whilst the Pfizer or Moderna is the preferred booster choice (and some of these patients can now have this), the JCVI have said that Astra Zeneca can be considered for use a booster in complex allergy patients, whom Green Book guidance currently advises should not have Pfizer/Moderna without prior specialist allergy advice.

Feedback to our helpline has been that patients are finding it extremely difficult to get any information about how to book Astra Zeneca as a booster.

We are writing to you to ask if you can provide us with information about how your area is meeting the needs of this patient group and ensuring that they are given the right advice and are able to access an Astra Zeneca booster vaccination. We urgently need this information so we can give the correct guidance to callers to our helpline.

In Calderdale we are following the advice contained in the Green Book Chapter 14a, as of 21st December 2021, and advising residents to contact their GP to facilitate a decision by a health professional

Where mRNA vaccines are clinically contra-indicated, AstraZeneca vaccine may be considered in those who had received at least one dose of this vaccine previously. In exceptional circumstances, persons aged 40 years or over who received a mRNA COVID-19 vaccine previously may be offered a booster dose of AstraZeneca Vaxzevria vaccine following a decision by a health professional on a case-by-case basis.

Calderdale have a local pathway which is attached to support GPs in their decision making. We have provided numerous messages to practices to inform them of this approach and pathway.

Frequently Asked Questions is available on the CCG website at

https://www.calderdaleccg.nhs.uk/covid-19-vaccination/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/ These are constantly updated at a West Yorkshire level. Do you have a question, but can't find the answer? There is now an "ask us" email address provided on the above link.