

COVID-19

Updated Shielding Guidance for Children and Young People with Kidney Disease

25 June 2020

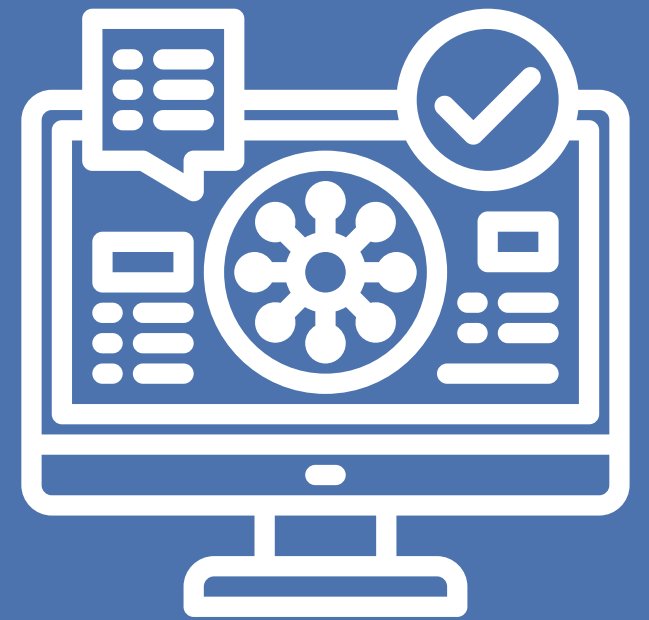


As the COVID-19 infection outbreak continues, we are learning more about the virus and how it affects children and young people.

Children are less affected by the virus compared to adults. This includes those with health problems or who are on medicines that lower their immune system.

The UK Renal Registry collects information on children with chronic kidney disease, on dialysis and transplanted, who test positive for COVID-19. Since March, only 5 cases have been reported. This is reassuringly similar to data from other countries, where all were mildly affected, and also from children with different conditions.

We have therefore revised the shielding guidance.



You are considered highest risk (clinically extremely vulnerable) if:

- You have received a kidney transplant in the last 3 months
- You are receiving (or have received in the last 6 weeks) high levels of medicines to lower your immune system. This includes:
 - Immune medication through a vein. This was likely given to you in hospital
 - Cyclophosphamide medicine
 - High dose steroids
- Your kidney team says you are high risk

Please continue to follow government advice for shielding



You are considered at intermediate risk (clinically vulnerable) if:

- You have had a kidney transplant for 3+ months
- You go to hospital for dialysis
- You are on a moderate amount of medicines to lower your immune system (e.g. 2 or more)
- You have active or frequently relapsing nephrotic syndrome
- Your kidney team says you may be at increased risk

Please stay alert and safe, with strict social distancing when out



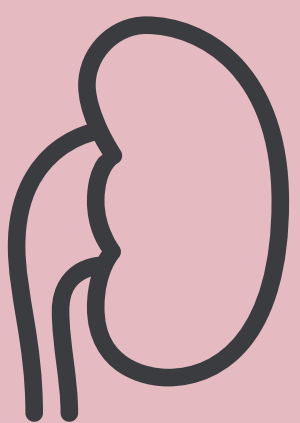
Check with your kidney team to see if there are factors that mean shielding or avoiding school is necessary

There is no evidence of increased risk if:

- You are on eculizumab treatment for atypical Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome (aHUS)
- You are on dialysis at home
- You have chronic kidney disease

Awaiting kidney transplant

- If living donor transplant planned: You and household members should self-isolate for 14 days before the transplant
 - If you go to hospital for dialysis, please attend as normal
- If you are on the donor waiting list: Please speak to your transplant team



As restrictions relax, we will continue to monitor the situation closely. This advice may change as we gather evidence. If you have any concerns or queries, please speak to your kidney team. For more information, please visit: renal.org/covid-19/

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