

# COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy Toolkit

## Pakistani Community



BRITISH ISLAMIC  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



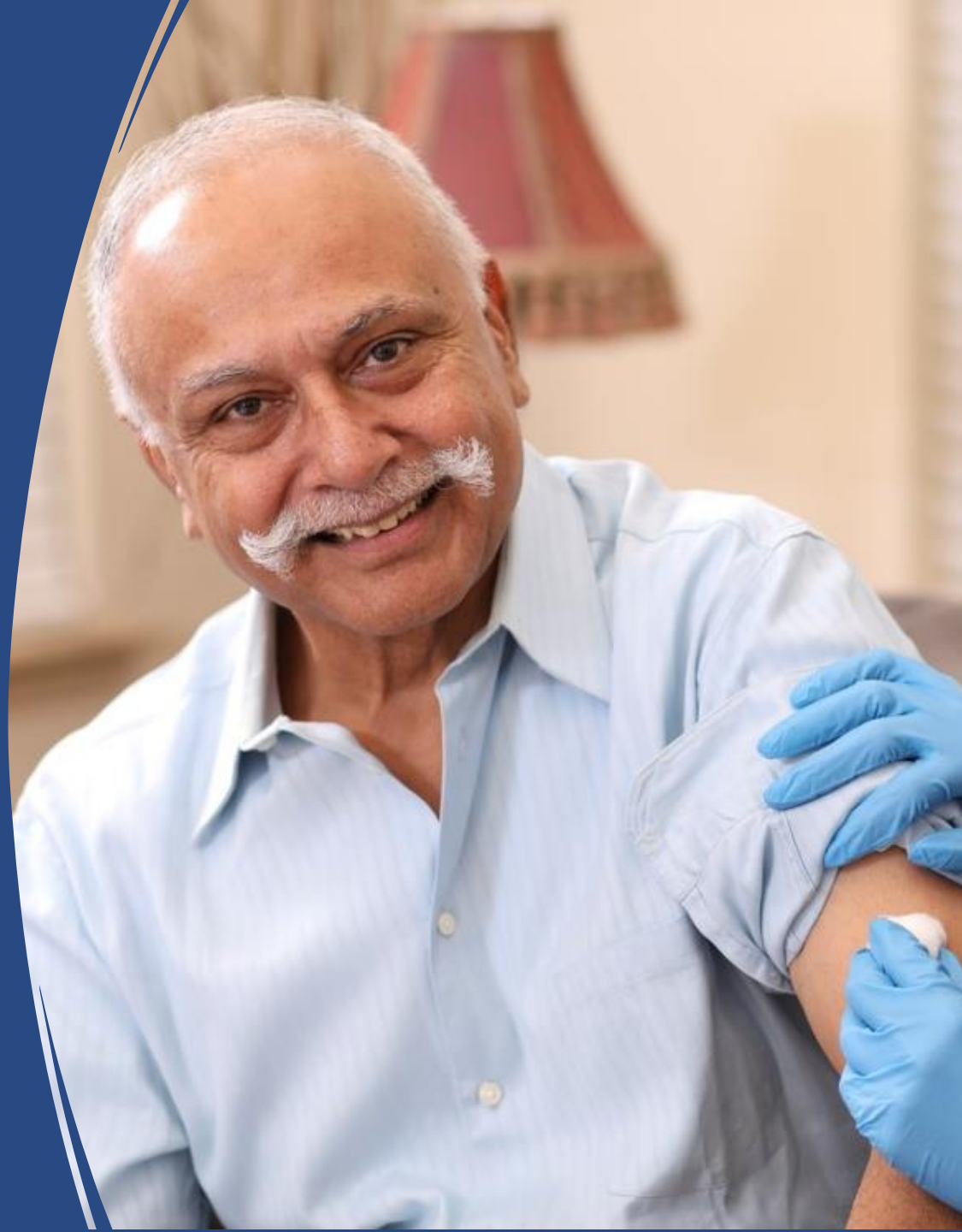
Healthier  
Scotland  
Scottish  
Government

# Background

Research has found that certain ethnic groups, including those of a Pakistani ethnicity, are disproportionately impacted by the spread of COVID-19. Rates of hospitalisation with COVID-19 are around four times higher for Pakistani and mixed groups than for the White Scottish population.

However, research has also found that there is a higher level of vaccine hesitancy in the Pakistani community than in the general population. This toolkit has been created to help address some of the reasons for this hesitancy and encourage greater uptake of the vaccine. It contains key messages, links to static and video assets, and suggested social media copy to make it as simple as possible for you to share this information with your audiences.

Your support in sharing these materials on your channels is greatly appreciated.



# Key Messages

- It's not too late to get vaccinated against COVID-19, whichever dose you are eligible for. The sooner you start your course to full protection, the better.
- The COVID-19 vaccine offers the best possible protection against serious COVID-19 symptoms.
- The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and has been through the same tests as any other vaccine.
- If you are planning to travel or go to a social event this year, making sure your vaccinations are up to date can make it easier.
- The COVID-19 vaccine is strongly recommended in pregnancy. Vaccination is the best way to protect pregnant women and their babies against the known risks of COVID-19 in pregnancy.
- Those who need a vaccinator of a certain gender, or a private space to be vaccinated, can request this at the vaccination clinic.
- If you have any questions about the vaccine, you can speak to your vaccinator first.
- Information about the COVID-19 vaccine is available in 35 other languages at [www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccinelanguages](http://www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccinelanguages)





# Ramadan Key Messages

- The British Islamic Medical Association has reviewed the analysis of Islamic scholars and confirmed that having the vaccine, including the booster vaccine, does not invalidate your fast.
- Muslim scholars have stated that the COVID-19 vaccines given in Scotland are halal compliant and receiving the vaccine does not break your fast.
- Staff at vaccination clinics will always respect your religious beliefs when you come forward for vaccination.
- If you are travelling for pilgrimage this year, making sure your vaccine course is up to date could make your travel plans easier.

# Social Media Assets

Static social media assets with key messages are available in English and Urdu, and can be found in Dropbox along with suggested social media copy here: [Dropbox - Pakistani Community Social Media Assets.](#)

If you require a vaccinator of a specific gender, you can request this at the vaccination clinic.



If you require a private space for your vaccination, you can request this at the vaccination clinic.



Muslim scholars have stated that the COVID-19 vaccines given in Scotland are halal compliant.



اگر آپ کو کسی مخصوص جنس کے ویکسینٹر کی ضرورت ہے، تو آپ ویکسینیشن کلینک میں اس کی درخواست کر سکتے ہیں۔



اگر آپ کو اپنی ویکسینیشن کے لیے ایک نجی جگہ درکار ہے، تو آپ ویکسینیشن کلینک میں اس کی درخواست کر سکتے ہیں۔



مسلم اسکالروں نے کہا ہے کہ سکاٹ لینڈ میں دی جانے والی کووڈ-19 ویکسینز حلال ہیں۔



# Ramadan Social Media Assets

Social media assets with key messages about getting the vaccine during Ramadan are available in English and Urdu here: [Dropbox - Pakistani Community Social Media Assets.](#)

If you are Muslim,  
scholars have  
confirmed that  
receiving the COVID-19  
vaccine does not  
break your fast.



اگر آپ مسلمان ہیں، تو علماء نے  
تصدیق کی ہے کہ کووڈ-19 ویکسین  
لینے سے آپ کا روزہ نہیں ٹوٹتا۔



Travelling for  
pilgrimage this year?  
Making sure your  
vaccinations are up to  
date could make your  
travel plans easier.



## BIMA video

A video about getting the COVID-19 vaccine during Ramadan, featuring members of the British Islamic Medical Association (BIMA), is available here: [Dropbox – BIMA COVID-19 Vaccine Ramadan video](#)



# More Information

For more information about COVID-19, visit:

[nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine](https://nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine)

[britishima.org](https://britishima.org)

For further information about this campaign, please contact

[health@smarts.agency](mailto:health@smarts.agency)

Thank you

