

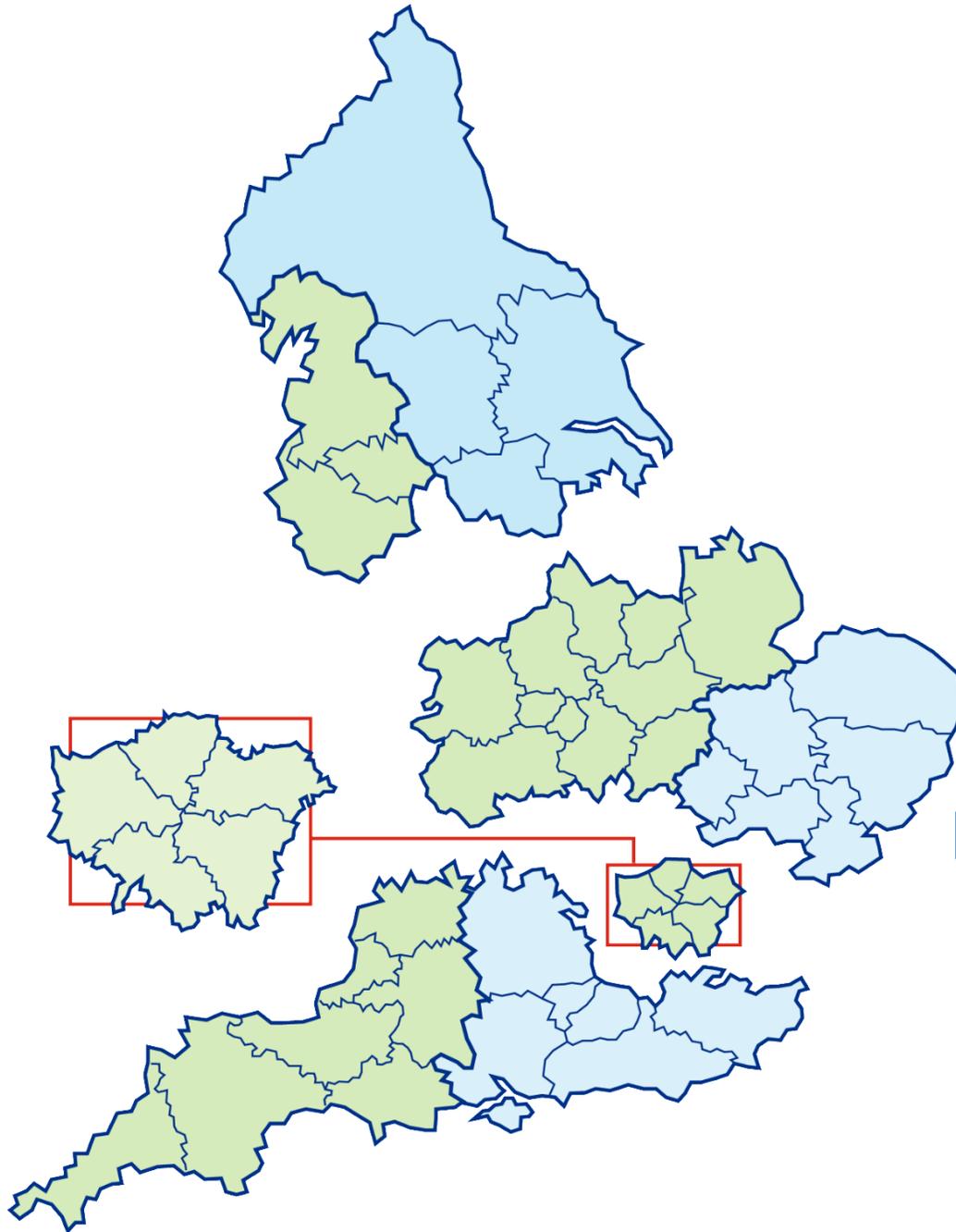
COVID-19 Vaccines: Briefing



NHS England and NHS Improvement



Check-in



Welcome, thanks for joining us today.

Please take a moment to tell us your name, where you are joining from and your organisation in the chat box!

Welcome



Muslim
Doctors
Association



British Islamic
Medical Association

The NHS Muslim Network

The three aims of the network are:

- **Representation** – to represent Muslim staff in the NHS and provide a collective voice for Muslim colleagues, including raising awareness of the Islamic faith and raising issues with senior management, in order to allow Muslim staff in the NHS to work in an inclusive environment where they can bring their whole selves to work.
- **Networking and progression** – to provide a forum for Muslim professionals in the NHS to network and build contacts and local communities, as well as providing opportunities for development to support career progression and an increase in Muslim staff in senior positions.
- **Inequalities** – to support the NHS and other key stakeholders in tackling health inequalities in the Muslim community, through health promotion activities with key stakeholders and co-developing health programmes and policy in support of the wider Government health objectives, in order to address the wide health inequalities and ensure equity and equality in health outcomes and programmes.

All are welcome to join – email england.muslim1@nhs.net for more information



Vaccines save lives

After clean water, vaccination is the most effective public health intervention in the world. Vaccines save lives and promote good health. It's vital that everyone eligible gets vaccinated.



Agenda



Importance of COVID-19 Vaccines for the BAME Community

- **Prerana Issar** – NHS Chief People Officer

The Clinical Perspective

- **Dr Raghieb Ali** - Consultant in Acute Medicine and Senior Clinical Research Associate, Oxford University Hospitals
- **Dr Imran Kauser** - Executive Medical Director at Novartis (BIMA)
- **Dr Zein Toukan** - GP & Health Promotion lead at Muslim Doctors Association (MDA)

The Islamic Perspective

- **Sheikh Asim Khan** – Imam of Redbridge Islamic Centre and Pharmacist

The COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout

- **Dr Masood Ahmed** - Chief Medical Officer and CCIO for NHS Black Country and West Birmingham CCGs

Call to Action

- **Emily Lawson** - Chief Commercial Officer and SRO for the COVID-19 Vaccine rollout

Open Q&A to all our panels

Ground Rules

(Our Compact)



Please remain on mute until prompted



Utilise the hand raise function if you would like to ask a question



Utilise the chat box to discuss, share reflections and ask questions



Be honest and open and submit any questions for our panel

The COVID-19 vaccines rollout and BAME communities

Prerana Issar – NHS Chief People Office

NHS England and NHS Improvement



The Clinical Perspective

Dr Raghieb Ali - Consultant in Acute Medicine and Senior Clinical Research Associate, Oxford University Hospitals

Dr Imran Kauser - Executive Medical Director at Novartis

Dr Zein Toukan - GP & Health Promotion Lead at MDA

NHS England and NHS Improvement



COVID-19 Vaccine Briefing

NHS Muslim Network

Dr Imran Kausar MBChB, MRCA

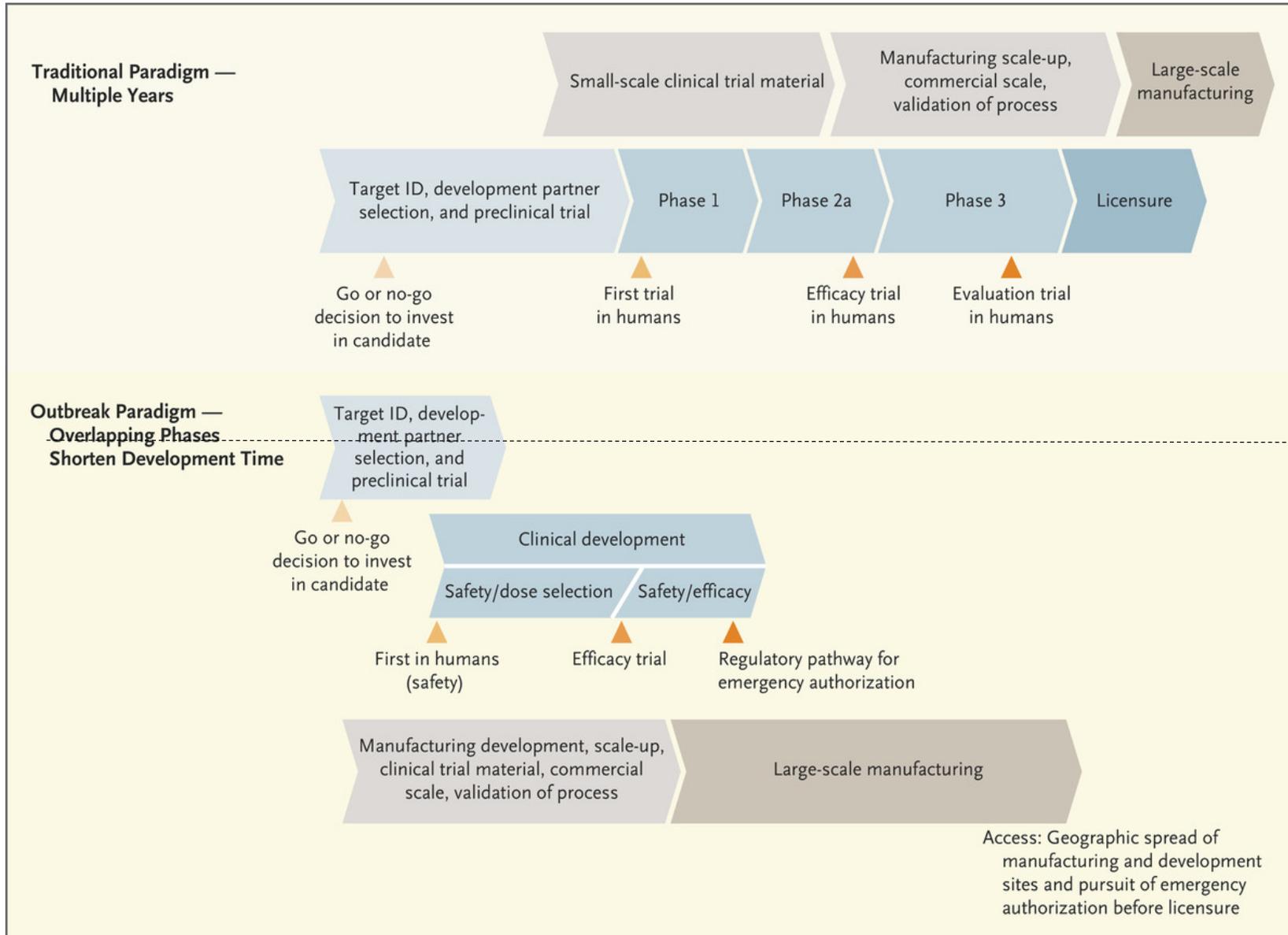
Executive Medical Director, Novartis Gene Therapies

British Islamic Medical Association

NHS England and NHS Improvement

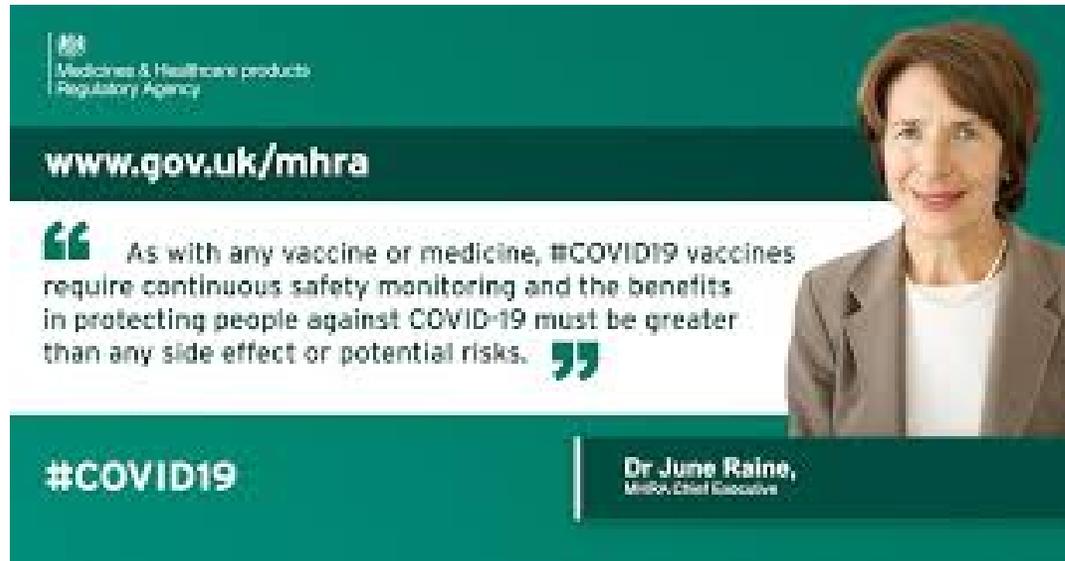


How were they developed?



- Unprecedented collaboration between global scientists, pharma companies, governments, regulators & NGOs
- Experience from SARS/MERS outbreaks and emerging biotech techniques accelerated development
- Initiatives like COVAX (WHO + CEPI + GAVI) allowed a global coordinated response for manufacturing and development of vaccines
- Widespread Covid infections allowed for rapid enrolment of subjects
- Emergency unlocked funds permitting investment in new manufacturing facilities

How were they regulated?



- In the UK Medicines are regulated by the MHRA
- They are looking for evidence of safety, efficacy and quality and the ultimate assessment is **risk vs. benefit**
- For COVID vaccines, the government has introduced a new type of authorisation which is **rapid and flexible** – but still requires data
- Each batch of vaccine has to be approved individually and companies are required to submit new trial data as it emerges
- Receiving new information from doctors/patients is also very important

What ingredients are there?

Covid-19 AstraZeneca

- Modified virus used to transport genetic code to make Spike protein
- Does NOT contain foetal cells.
- Does NOT contain any animal ingredients
- Contains tiny amounts of alcohol (similar to a slice of bread)

Covid-19 Pfizer

- Synthetic lipid nano-particle transporting the genetic code of the Spike protein
- Does NOT contain animal ingredients
- No alcohol

Covid-19 Moderna

- Synthetic lipid nano-particle transporting the genetic code of the Spike protein
- Does NOT contain animal ingredients
- No alcohol

Myths

MYTH: GPs are making a lot of money from COVID vaccinations



TRUTH: GPs are paid £12.50 per injection. Most won't make a profit. Some may make a loss.

This includes paying for:

- GP work (8am - 8pm up to 7 days a week)
- Venues (e.g. hall/library) & equipment
- Admin & nursing staff
- Training staff & educating patients
- Monitoring patients after their vaccination

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MYTH: COVID vaccine causes irreversible side effects



TRUTH: No patient has so far suffered from irreversible side effects - in trials or in the population.

This myth was spread by misreading a presentation which actually said 3000 of those vaccinated suffered with **temporary** and **reversible** side effects.

All medicines have the potential to cause side effects, but this needs to be weighed up against the harm of the disease they are trying to prevent.

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MYTH: COVID is caused by the 5G network



TRUTH: COVID is spreading in countries without 5G. There is no scientific connection.

This myth started as the COVID outbreak coincided with 5G being rolled out in Wuhan. It ignores the fact that 5G had been started in other areas of China before the COVID outbreak.

COVID has also affected countries that do not have 5G.

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MYTH: COVID deaths are being exaggerated



TRUTH: COVID deaths are most likely under-reported rather than exaggerated.

The majority of COVID declared deaths have positive swabs. A minority are recorded as COVID without a swab if the radiological picture or symptoms strongly suggest COVID in the absence of any other explanation and doing a post-death swab is undesirable / impractical.

This is in keeping with normal medical practice.

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MYTH: The COVID vaccine ingredients are Haram



TRUTH: The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine contains no animal ingredients at all.

Declaring a product halal or haraam is a call for Islamic scholars who have studied on this for years. The simple presence of a particular ingredient is not the only factor taken into account.

Most previous vaccines, including the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, have been declared halal by the majority of scholarly bodies worldwide.

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MYTH: The vaccine was approved too quickly to be safe



TRUTH: The speed of approval was mainly due to cutting red tape rather than cutting corners.

There has been unprecedented worldwide scientific collaboration and funding to create the COVID vaccine. This global effort has allowed scientists to work at record speed, and complete years of work in months.

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MYTH: 99.97% recover from COVID, but 3% get major side effects from vaccine



TRUTH: These numbers are false. We should remember that over a million people have died from the virus and millions more are suffering long term complications.

The small risk of minimal and often short term side effects of the vaccine do not outweigh the risk of long term complications or death from COVID.

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MYTH: We should just wait for herd immunity



TRUTH: The number of deaths that will occur before we possibly achieve herd immunity will be disastrous.

Herd immunity works if the majority of the population has had COVID.

Official data suggests over 2 million people in the UK have had COVID. To achieve herd immunity, the number of deaths would also increase dramatically and be disastrous for our country.

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Final message

1. COVID-19 is a killer. Don't underestimate it.
2. Seek information from trusted sources – fake news harms.
3. You are in control of your choices.



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COVID-19 Vaccines

Advice on Pregnancy, Breastfeeding & Fertility

Dr. Zein Toukan

Advice to Pregnant Women



- * Current data does not indicate any safety concerns or harm to pregnancy. There are no known risks with other non- live vaccines.
- * There is insufficient evidence to recommend routine use of the vaccine in pregnancy.
- * The Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisations advises an individualised approach for pregnant women which includes assessing the risks and benefits of receiving the vaccine.
- * There is data that pregnant women, especially from ethnic minority backgrounds, have higher risk of complications from COVID-19 infection during pregnancy including premature delivery and maternal deaths.

Advice to Pregnant Women



- * Women who are in the extremely clinically vulnerable category or are frontline health or social care workers should discuss the option of vaccination with their obstetrician and/or doctor.
- * The Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists recommends that pregnant women who are eligible for vaccination receive it through their maternity unit or notify their maternity unit when it is received.
- * A national registry has been set up to monitor for long term safety data which is constantly being reviewed .

Advice to Breastfeeding Women



- * For breastfeeding women, the recommendation is that women should be offered the vaccine if they are eligible.
- * The Joint Committee for Vaccinations and Immunisations advises an individualised approach.



Does the COVID-19 vaccine affect fertility?

- * There is harmful disinformation circulating around the vaccine being linked to infertility as a tool for population control.
- * There is currently no evidence that the vaccines affect fertility.
- * There is no need to avoid pregnancy after vaccination
- * In the Pfizer trial 23 women conceived, 12 in the vaccines group and 11 in the control group; they are being followed up.

Resources

- * <https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/news/updated-advice-on-covid-19-vaccination-in-pregnancy-and-women-who-are-breastfeeding/>
- * <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-women-of-childbearing-age-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding>
- * <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/oxford-universityastrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-approved>

Call for Action

Emily Lawson – NHSEI Chief Commercial Officer and SRO for the vaccines rollout

NHS England and NHS Improvement



Call to Action



- The NHS Muslim Network is supporting NHS England and NHS Improvement with the rollout of the COVID-19 Vaccines and ensuring uptake in the Muslim communities
- We are asking support from our members to help uptake of the vaccine, including:
 - **Translation:** Volunteers to support the rollout of the programme, particularly colleagues who can speak multiple languages to help with translation of materials
 - **Share:** Share information on the vaccines in order to support our communities and dispel any fears and myths
 - **Support:** Support uptake of the vaccine rollout through volunteering or deploying onto the vaccine programme
 - **Champion:** Send us short clips, quotes, photo snaps of yourselves, your friends and family taking the vaccine – representation of all Muslim communities, examples can be found here [vaccine infographics](#)
- Slides used today will be made available to all members of the network via our website – link will be shared soon
- All other materials that can support with the Muslim community will also be shared, including materials developed by the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB), the British Islamic Medical Association (BIMA), the Muslim Doctors Association (MDA) and NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI)
- [Building vaccine confidence in BAME communities](#)

The Islamic Perspective

Sheikh Asim Khan – Imam of Redbridge Islamic Centre and Pharmacist

NHS England and NHS Improvement



Key points – The Islamic perspective



Medicinal Treatment in Islam

Did the Prophet ﷺ speak about vaccinations?

Sensitivities around the COVID vaccine: between conspiracy and concern

Conclusion

The COVID-19 Vaccines Rollout

Dr Masood Ahmed - Chief Medical Officer and CCIO for NHS Black Country and West Birmingham CCGs

NHS England and NHS Improvement



Open Q&A for our panel

NHS England and NHS Improvement



Feedback



How likely are you now to accept the COVID-19 vaccine when offered?



Instructions:

- Using a smart phone simply click on the camera icon to access your camera
- Hover your camera over the QR code
- Click the Open 'Form' message



'The NHS Muslim Network Executive Committee encourages everyone to take the COVID-19 vaccine when offered, and continue doing everything you can to comply with the Government's safety regulations and playing your part in helping yourself, your families, colleagues and communities stay safe.

'Doing your bit by getting vaccinated will save lives.'

The NHS Muslim Network Executive Committee



MUSLIM
N E T W O R K

Take the vaccine, save lives!

Our simple advice: have the COVID-19 vaccination as soon as it is offered to you. Insha'Allah, this is the best way to tackle the spread of this coronavirus, protecting ourselves, those we love, and everyone in our communities.



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LONDON MUSLIM CENTRE

For further information visit:
www.eastlondonmosque.org.uk

