

Ref: FOI/00196/CMICB
24 January 2023

Previous Request:

Please provide government instruction/guidance NHS Cheshire and Merseyside were given with regards to the Covid vaccination and informed consent.

Previous Response:

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB has not received any specific government instruction/guidance with regards to informed consent for the Covid-19 vaccination, other than the national Covid-19 vaccination consent forms and letters which are issued via the national booking system.

Copies of the national Covid-19 vaccination consent form and letters for adults are publicly available and published on the Government website via the below link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-consent-form-and-letter-for-adults>

Your Request:

Perhaps you can clarify for me, however - and whether or not this counts as a review or not, I'm not sure - but does the use of this form circumvent or negate the requirement for other consent protocols, such as the Green Book Chapter 2, BMA and/or GMC guidance?

I am trying to obtain the consent process used by NHS C&M and mistakenly thought it was from the government, therefore can you confirm whether NHS C&M used existing consent processes or just the form on the link provided? In the former case, can you supply that information?

Our Response:

Please be advised that responsibility for obtaining consent resides with the clinical providers of the Covid-19 vaccination and is a core part of all vaccine processes. The templates provided on the Government website in our previous response were an optional tool to support clinical teams with Covid vaccination.

The former CCGs and NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB have not mandated a particular form or method of obtaining consent. The final decision about the recording of consent will have resided with the clinical leads in each provider administering Covid-19 vaccinations and therefore, each provider may have managed their own consent process in a different way. Information on how each provider of Covid-19 vaccinations will have obtained consent will be held by each of the providers themselves.

Clinicians working in Covid-19 vaccination centres will have followed the guidance provided by their professional regulator such as the General Medical Council (GMC), Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) or The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and the guidance contained in The Green Book.