

Dr Ramesh Mehta OBE  
President  
British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin

Dr JS Bamrah CBE  
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29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

VIA E-MAIL: [admin@bapio.co.uk](mailto:admin@bapio.co.uk)

Dear Dr Mehta and Dr Bamrah,

**Re: Covid-19 Vaccinations for migrant healthcare workers without NHS Numbers**

Thank you for your letter of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

NHS England and Improvement are clear that vaccinating frontline teams against COVID-19 is an absolute and immediate priority, as part of the shared commitment to offer the first vital dose to 100% of those within the first four Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) priority groups by the middle of February 2021.

NHS staff do not require an NHS number or GP registration to receive a vaccination and should never be denied one on this basis, either in person when presenting for a vaccine, or through design of booking systems. NHS England/NHS Improvement is asking employers to take immediate action to ensure this is not the case in NHS organisations.

NHS England and Improvement guidance is that if a member of staff does not have an NHS number, then employers should vaccinate now, record locally via a paper system and ensure that that the vaccination event is more formally documented later. NHS England and NHS Improvement are working to agree a longer-term solution, but employers should not wait for this before vaccinating.

Locum, agency and bank staff in qualifying roles must be given equitable access, and the contracting organisation has a duty of care to ensure these staff are offered a vaccination alongside substantive staff.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Navina Evans CBE**  
**Chief Executive**

Cc: Danny Mortimer, Chief Executive, NHS Employers  
Charlie Massey, Chief Executive and Registrar, General Medical Council  
Sir Simon Stephens, Chief Executive, NHS England  
Ruth May, Chief Nursing Officer, NHS England