

COVID-19 Vaccine Study

The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (BHSCT) is looking for volunteers to participate in a clinical trial studying an investigational vaccine against COVID-19. The vaccine has recently completed preliminary testing in humans, showing promising initial results on antibody levels in healthy volunteers and no serious safety concerns identified to date. The vaccine now requires testing on a large scale and a study involving 9000 people in around 18 regions across the UK is starting. The BHSCT aims to recruit around 350 volunteers aged 18-84 from the Northern Ireland area. The study aims to recruit a representative sample from the entire population so most people will be suitable.

However, this clinical trial would not be suitable for those with a body mass index below 17 or above 35, those taking anticoagulant therapy (aspirin is fine) or anyone pregnant or aiming to become pregnant in the next year. Participants at higher risk from COVID-19 for any reason, e.g. due to their age, social situation or ethnicity, are particularly welcome. Interested individuals are invited to email their contact details to covid19vaccinetrial@belfasttrust.hscni.net.