

15 January 2021

Ref: Your letter dated 15.01.21 Notifications to Norwegian Health Authorities relating to the possible impact of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines on mortality in the frail elderly

Dear Dr Holohan,

As requested, the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) convened a meeting in response to your letter.

NIAC is aware that 23 deaths have been notified to the National Adverse Events Register in Norway, in very frail elderly people. These reports have been temporally related to administration of Comirnaty[®] vaccine. This does not imply causation. The European Medicines Agency (EMA) is gathering information and has not advised any change in the use of the vaccine. The Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) will advise NIAC of any progress in the EMA review.

NIAC has no new recommendation at this time. The vaccination rollout should continue as planned. We would like to reiterate that, as in all situations, a careful, individual assessment of the risk/benefit ratio for those receiving a COVID-19 vaccine should be carried out.

NIAC will keep the situation under review.

Sincerely,

Karina Butler
Imc 03054

Karina Butler
Chair National Immunisation Advisory Committee