



Vaccination statement

The role of herbal practitioners with regard to patient enquires about vaccination for the prevention of infectious diseases.

- The National Institute of Medical Herbalists does not see commenting on vaccines as part of our core purpose, but recognises that these are exceptional times, and that patients may be particularly likely to approach Members at present for guidance when considering vaccination.
- We support patient choice and patient empowerment, and Members should seek to support patients to make whichever choice they wish
- If patients ask Members for their advice, guidance should be given based on individual patient needs, using their professional judgement and an assessment of that patient's clinical history.
- Taking into account section 4.2 of our Code of Ethics:

" [In providing care] you must recognise the limits of your professional competence and work within them."

If the Member feels that the patient could be better served by seeking guidance from other sources, then they should advise them to do this, and suggest sources that are appropriate for that patient.

- Other relevant sources of guidance could include, but not be limited to, the NHS, the BMJ, the WHO, the MHRA, or other practitioners.
- We suggest that Members should always use their professional judgement to assess the trustworthiness of any sources being considered and to make recommendations as appropriate.