

# 5% of countries EXCLUDE people with Down syndrome from the COVID-19 vaccine

Wednesday 2 June, 2021

Down Syndrome International is a disabled people's organisation committed to improving the quality of life for people with Down syndrome, promoting their right to be included on a full and equal basis with others.

**As part of our COVID-19 response**, DSI reached out to organisation members to gather information about access to COVID-19 vaccinations in their country and the barriers encountered and to understand how we can best support them with associated advocacy activities. ?

The data from this survey was collected from March 11th – April 27th 2021.

?37 member organisations completed the survey from 35 countries around the world ?These countries encompassed all world regions (as defined by WHO: Africa, Americas, S-E Asia, Europe, Eastern Mediterranean and Western Pacific)

?These countries represented and low-, middle- and high-income brackets (as defined by the World Bank)

We found that:

?Only in 27% of countries were people with Down syndrome, one of the priority groups for vaccination.

?In 22% of countries, people with Down syndrome are included within another disability group

?In 46% of countries, people with Down syndrome are being prioritised in the same way as the rest of the population

?In 5% of countries, people with Down syndrome are being excluded from the vaccination programme.

## In response DSI is:

?liaising with international experts and researchers to provide the latest up-to-date, accurate and evidenced information about COVID-19 vaccines and information to support international, national and regional advocacy efforts.

?Working with and supporting its member organisations and international partners to advocate for the necessary prioritisation of people with Down syndrome in the COVID-19 vaccination rollout in countries worldwide.

**In addition**, DSI will publish a COVID-19 advocacy toolkit on the website. [dsi-int.org](https://dsi-int.org)

## Media:



## Related Sectors:

Charities & non-profits ::  
Coronavirus (COVID-19) ::  
Government :: Health ::

## Related Keywords:

COVID-19 :: Down Syndrome ::  
Survey :: Response :: Disability ::  
Impact :: Justice :: Change ::  
Trisomy :: Charity :: International ::  
WHO ::

## Scan Me:



## Company Contact:

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