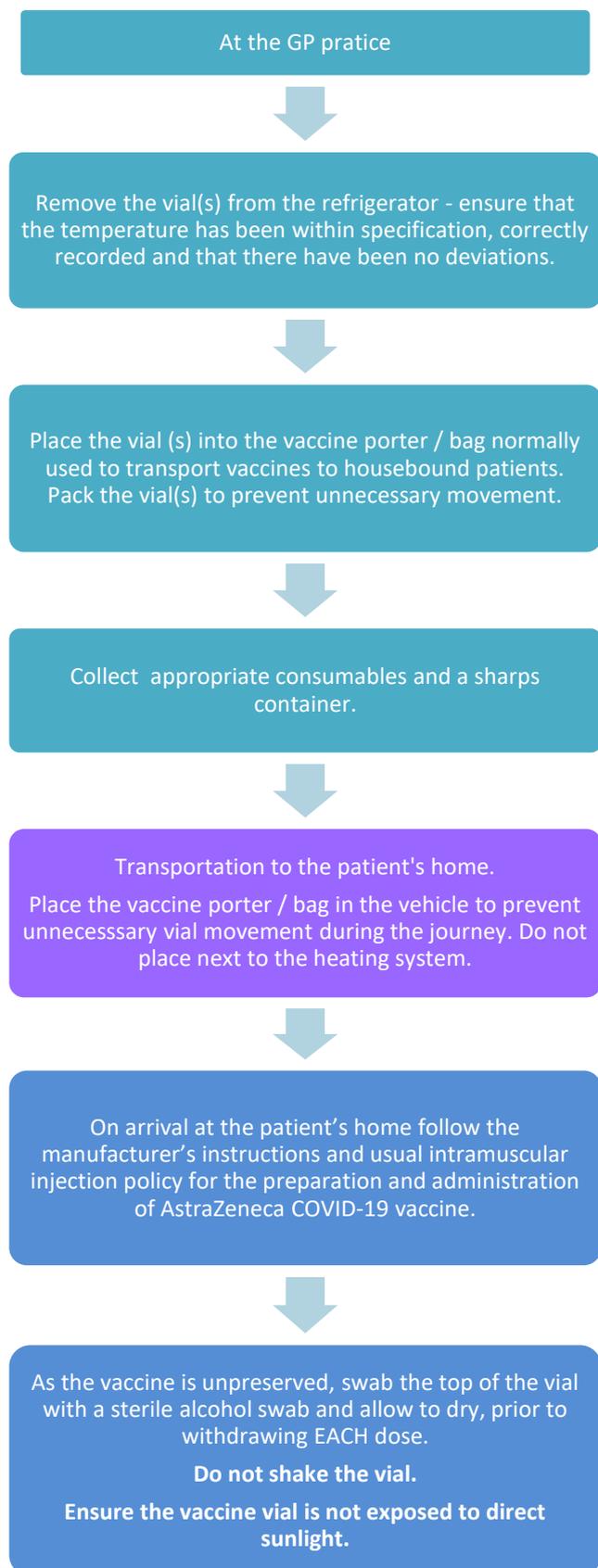


Guidance for vaccination of housebound patients using COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca

The vaccine vials must be stored between +2°C to +8°C prior to first use.

After administration of the first dose, the vaccine should be used as soon as practically possible and within 6 hours. The vaccine may be stored between +2°C and +25°C during use.

Note – During vaccine transportation, the cold chain (+2°C to +8°C) should be assured and maintained e.g. validated vaccine porter. However, if this cannot be assured then the 6 hour expiry time should commence from the point of removal from the refrigerator in the GP practice.



Note – if there have been temperature deviations, do not use the vaccine and contact NHSGCC Pharmacy Public Health as per normal procedure.

It is important to select the correct number of vials for the number of patients to be vaccinated as punctured vials cannot be returned to the GP practice refrigerator. This is the same for unused vials where the cold chain cannot be assured.

The 6 hour expiry time should be recorded on the vial label.

Infection Prevention and Control Considerations – ensure local infection control precautions are followed.

After vaccination is completed for each household, decontaminate the vial using an alcohol wipe before putting back into the vaccine porter/bag used to carry the vaccine for onward transport. This is in view of the unknown risk from other infectious pathogens within the home environment. The vaccine porter / bag used to carry the vaccine should only be decontaminated leaving the home if there is contamination or if the person in the household has a known infectious pathogen.