

Frequently asked questions about COVID-19 safety at ABI In-Person Events

1. What steps you are taking to ensure that attendees are free of COVID before attending?

Delegates are required to provide [a valid NHS COVID Pass](#) upon registration at the event, which can be obtained if one of the following applies:

- 2 weeks after completing a full course of vaccination, whether that requires 2 doses or one dose (that is, 2 doses of the Moderna, AstraZeneca or Pfizer vaccine, or 1 dose of the Janssen vaccine) (according to the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency authorised schedule).
- with evidence of a negative PCR or rapid lateral flow test taken within 48 hours of entry to a venue. A lateral flow test taken at home will need to be reported into the [public reporting system](#)
- proof of natural immunity shown by a positive PCR test result for COVID-19, lasting for 180 days from the date of the positive test and following completion of the self-isolation period

You must have been vaccinated in England*. You can find exemptions of the NHS COVID Pass [here](#).

If obtaining an NHS COVID Pass with evidence of a negative PCR or rapid lateral flow test, delegates are asked to ensure that they perform the test so that it lasts for the duration of their attendance at the ABI event.

We will not be providing rapid lateral flow tests on site.

Delegates should not attend the event if [required to self-isolate](#), which includes if them or someone they live with has any [symptoms of COVID-19](#) (which can include a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste). Delegates should not attend where they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 but have taken a rapid lateral flow test, the result of which is negative.

How to access the NHS COVID Pass

You can access and show evidence of your NHS COVID Pass through the free [NHS App](#) on a mobile device such as a smartphone or tablet, [via the NHS website](#), or a NHS COVID Pass letter (vaccination status only). For more information on how to access the NHS COVID Pass, [click here](#).

Exemptions

If you have a medical reason which means you cannot be vaccinated or tested, you may let us know on entry (we will not ask for any proof of this medical exemption) or you may let us know by contacting events@abi.org.uk (please do not disclose specific details of why you are exempt). **If you have any questions, please email events@abi.org.uk.**

Full vaccination outside of England

*We will accept proof of vaccination status for those fully vaccinated outside of England. For those vaccinated in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland, please find further information for

providing proof of vaccination and the formats we can accept below. For those fully vaccinated elsewhere outside of England, please contact events@abi.org.uk.

- [Scotland: vaccination status letter](#)
- [Wales: NHS COVID Pass](#) - online via NHS website or Pass by post (not available through the NHS app)
- [Northern Ireland](#)

2. Will social distancing and face coverings be required at the event?

As an organisation we are still recommending social distancing where possible, and signage will be displayed around the floor to refer to this. We will encourage delegates to consider wearing a face covering when moving around and not seated during the event.

3. Are indoor spaces well ventilated and what air conditioning/filtration systems are in place?

We can confirm that our Air Handling Units (AHU) are set to provide 100% outdoor (fresh) air with no recirculation.

4. What if I start to feel unwell at the event?

If you begin to experience symptoms of COVID-19 at the event, we kindly ask that you leave the event and do not interact with other delegates or ABI staff. If you subsequently test positive for COVID-19, please follow the steps in the answer to the next question.

5. Are there any other measures being taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

Hand sanitisers are placed by the lift area, which should be used before entering. Hand sanitisers will also be available by the reception and in each room.

6. What plans are in place if after the event a participant(s) tests positive for COVID-19?

If you test positive for COVID-19 within 48 hours of attending the event, please notify us as soon as possible by contacting ABICOVID-19Notification@abi.org.uk. Please include details of anybody with whom you came into close contact at the event (you may wish to refer to this [government guidance](#) on what is meant by a contact) or provide us with a contact number, so that we may discuss this with you.

If you are identified as a close contact of somebody who tested positive for COVID-19 within 48 hours of attending the event, we will contact you as soon as we are able.

If any delegate at the event tested positive for COVID-19 within 48 hours, we will notify you of this as soon as we are able. We will likely prioritise contacting those who have been identified as a close contact but will endeavour to let all other delegates know as soon as possible.