COVID-19 and people with learning disabilities

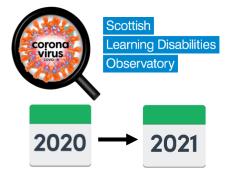




This is an easy read summary of a research report about COVID-19 and people with learning disabilities.



Research from the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic showed that more people with learning disabilities died than people without learning disabilities.



The Scottish Learning Disabilities Observatory (SLDO) have carried out research covering the whole of 2020 and 2021.



They looked at the health data for everyone in England from the start of the pandemic to the end of 2021.

What we found:

People with learning disabilities



People without learning disabilities

People with learning disabilities were 5 times more likely to die of COVID-19 than people without learning disabilities.



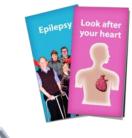


People with learning disabilities were much more likely to go into hospital with COVID-19 than people without learning disabilities.



People were more likely to go into hospital if:

They were older



They had many health problems



They were not vaccinated



They were male



They come from a non-white ethnic background.



People with learning disabilities are at higher risk of getting ill with Covid-19.

This is because they often have more health problems than people without learning disabilities.

What this means:



People with learning disabilities should be considered a priority group in future outbreaks.



People with learning disabilities should be a priority for things that help like shielding and vaccinations.



Health care staff and supporters should help make sure people with learning disabilities and their carers have their COVID-19 booster vaccinations.

This is important.



More research is needed to understand:

Why people with learning disabilities have more health conditions than people without learning disabilities.



Why people with learning disabilities develop health conditions at an earlier age than people without learning disabilities.

