

## Covid-19 after vaccination in haemodialysis patients

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**Abstract:** Introduction

Patients receiving haemodialysis are at high risk from Covid-19, and demonstrate impaired immune responses to vaccines. There have been several descriptions of their immunological responses to SARS-CoV-2 vaccination, but few studies have described the clinical efficacy of vaccination in haemodialysis patients.

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3 **Methods**

4 In a multi-centre observational study of the London haemodialysis population undergoing surveillance  
5 PCR testing during the period of vaccine roll-out with BNT162b2 and AZD1222, all those positive for  
6 SARS-CoV-2 were identified. Clinical outcomes were analysed according to predictor variables including  
7 vaccination status.  
8

9 **Results**

10 SARS-CoV-2 infection was identified in 1323 patients of different ethnicities (Asian/other 30%, Black 38%  
11 and White 32%) including 1047 (79%) unvaccinated, 86 (7%) post-first-dose, and 190 (14%) post-second-  
12 dose vaccination. The majority of patients had a mild course but 515 (39%) were hospitalised and 172  
13 (13%) died. Older age, diabetes and immune suppression were associated with greater illness severity.  
14 In regression models adjusted for age, comorbidity and time period, prior two-dose vaccination was  
15 associated with a 75% (95%CI: 56-86) reduction in admissions and 88% (95%CI: 70-95) reduction in  
16 deaths compared to unvaccinated patients. No loss of protection was seen in patients over 65 years, or  
17 with increasing time since vaccination, and no difference was seen between vaccine types.  
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19 **Discussion**

20 These data demonstrate a substantial reduction in the risk of severe Covid-19 after vaccination in this  
21 vulnerable population.  
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# Covid-19 after vaccination in haemodialysis patients

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38 **Significance Statement**

39 Patients receiving in-centre haemodialysis are particularly susceptible to SARS-CoV-2  
40 infection, partly due to impaired immune responses, which may also reduce vaccine  
41 effectiveness.

42 A large multi-centre haemodialysis population was observed clinically, and with weekly PCR  
43 screening, over the period when vaccination became available. Predictors of clinical events  
44 following a diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection were analysed with regression models.

45 Covid-19 was still observed after vaccination, but compared to unvaccinated patients,  
46 hospital admission, respiratory support and death were all less frequent. Vaccination in this  
47 group appears protective against adverse clinical outcomes including hospitalisation and  
48 death.

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3 **51 Abstract**  
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6 **52 Introduction**  
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9 **53** Patients receiving haemodialysis are at high risk from Covid-19, and demonstrate impaired  
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11 **54** immune responses to vaccines. There have been several descriptions of their immunological  
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13 **55** responses to SARS-CoV-2 vaccination, but few studies have described the clinical efficacy of  
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15 **56** vaccination in haemodialysis patients.  
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17 **57 Methods**  
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20 **58** In a multi-centre observational study of the London haemodialysis population undergoing  
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22 **59** surveillance PCR testing during the period of vaccine roll-out with BNT162b2 and AZD1222,  
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24 **60** all those positive for SARS-CoV-2 were identified. Clinical outcomes were analysed according  
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26 **61** to predictor variables including vaccination status.  
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28 **62 Results**  
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31 **63** SARS-CoV-2 infection was identified in 1323 patients of different ethnicities (Asian/other 30%,  
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33 **64** Black 38% and White 32%) including 1047 (79%) unvaccinated, 86 (7%) post-first-dose, and  
34  
35 **65** 190 (14%) post-second-dose vaccination. The majority of patients had a mild course but 515  
36  
37 **66** (39%) were hospitalised and 172 (13%) died. Older age, diabetes and immune suppression  
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39 **67** were associated with greater illness severity. In regression models adjusted for age,  
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41 **68** comorbidity and time period, prior two-dose vaccination was associated with a 75% (95%CI:  
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43 **69** 56-86) reduction in admissions and 88% (95%CI: 70-95) reduction in deaths compared to  
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45 **70** unvaccinated patients. No loss of protection was seen in patients over 65 years, or with  
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47 **71** increasing time since vaccination, and no difference was seen between vaccine types.  
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49 **72 Discussion**  
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52 **73** These data demonstrate a substantial reduction in the risk of severe Covid-19 after  
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54 **74** vaccination in this vulnerable population.  
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## 77 Introduction

78 In-centre haemodialysis patients face a dual hazard from SARS-CoV-2: firstly, whilst the  
79 majority of the population are able to adhere to lockdown measures, the need to attend  
80 dialysis creates a greater likelihood of exposure to infection; secondly, as a group with  
81 comorbidity and impaired immune responses, infection is more severe once acquired <sup>1,2</sup>. As  
82 a consequence, in these patients there is a high relative risk of death across all age groups <sup>3</sup>.

83 Whilst the development of vaccines has been shown to induce robust immune responses and  
84 protect individuals against infection in the general population <sup>4,5</sup>, haemodialysis patients have  
85 generally been excluded from these trials. Several studies have investigated either humoral  
86 <sup>6-8</sup> or cellular immune responses <sup>9</sup> to vaccination in dialysis patients, but there has been  
87 limited evidence of clinical effectiveness, aside from comparative vaccine efficacy <sup>10</sup>.

88 The clinical effectiveness of vaccination remains a pressing concern in this group of vulnerable  
89 patients <sup>11</sup> and is vital for supporting vaccine promotion amongst hesitant patients. This study  
90 aims to estimate the clinical efficacy of vaccination in preventing severe disease in  
91 haemodialysis patients developing SARS-CoV-2 infection.

## 92 Methods

93 This cohort study of SARS-CoV-2 infections in prevalent haemodialysis patients included all  
94 patients with positive PCR on surveillance or otherwise indicated testing, between 1<sup>st</sup>  
95 December 2020 and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Dates were chosen to include as many first and  
96 second doses as possible, running from the start of the vaccination program, until third doses  
97 were offered to this patient group in the UK. The study was sponsored by St George's Hospital  
98 and received approval from the National Research Ethics Service (IRAS Ref 283130).

99 In-centre haemodialysis is provided to approximately 5500 patients in London across seven  
100 renal centres, with enhanced infection surveillance and isolation of cases during the  
101 pandemic, described elsewhere <sup>2</sup>. During the study period all centres had a policy of  
102 temperature / symptom screening at every dialysis session, SARS-CoV-2 RNA testing of all  
103 patients on a weekly basis, and additional RNA testing of contacts of cases. Cases otherwise  
104 identified, for example presenting to emergency services, were also included. Patients



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3 105 receiving home dialysis were excluded, as were those receiving short-term dialysis for  
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5 106 recoverable kidney disease. SARS-CoV-2 infection date was defined by the date of the first  
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7 107 positive RNA during the observation period. Prior infection was defined if there was positive  
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9 108 RNA more than 90 days previously, whereas cases following prior infection within 90 days  
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11 109 were regarded as persistent viral shedding rather than new infection, and excluded.

12  
13 110 Clinical severity definitions included any hospital admission within 14 days (including a small  
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15 111 number of infections acquired in patients already hospitalised), any period of sustained  
16  
17 112 oxygen use within 28 days, any ventilatory support (including non-invasive methods) within  
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19 113 28 days, and death from any cause within 28 days (with or without hospital admission). These  
20  
21 114 outcomes were defined hierarchically so that each category includes more severe outcomes.  
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23 115 In a secondary analysis Covid-19 deaths were identified by excluding deaths due to an  
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25 116 alternative pathology, to which SARS-CoV-2 was non-contributory. Immune suppression was  
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27 117 defined if at the onset of infection patients were receiving steroids (equivalent to  
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29 118 prednisolone >10mg daily), tacrolimus, mycophenolate or azathioprine, or if they had  
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31 119 received cytotoxic chemotherapy or immunomodulating biologic agents within the last six  
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33 120 months. Differences in Covid-19 outcomes have been reported so ethnicity from electronic  
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35 121 records was collected and grouped as Asian/other, Black and White.

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37 122 Time period of infection was included as a predictor variable to account for secular trends,  
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39 123 based on month, amalgamating those with few cases, making 6 time periods. The dominant  
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41 124 SARS-CoV-2 variant in London was Alpha (B.1.1.7) during periods 1-3, and Delta (B.1.617.2)  
42  
43 125 during periods 4-6 <sup>12</sup>. Only two vaccines were used in this period: BNT162b2 (Pfizer-  
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45 126 BioNTech) or AZD1222 (Oxford-Astra-Zeneca). Data were missing for vaccine type in three  
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47 127 cases, but complete for comorbidity and clinical outcome. Patient status was coded as  
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49 128 vaccinated (first or second dose) 10 days after vaccine administration.

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51 129 Predictors of clinical outcome were analysed using mixed logistic regression models, with  
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53 130 fixed effects including age, gender, ethnicity, diabetes, immune suppression, prior SARS-CoV-  
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55 131 2 and time period, with renal centre as a random effect. Effect sizes were expressed as odds  
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57 132 ratios with 95% confidence interval, and estimated vaccine efficacy was defined as 1 - odds  
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59 133 ratio. Sub-group analyses were performed to estimate the effect of age, vaccine type and  
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134 time since vaccination, with boundaries chosen to give roughly equal group sizes. Sensitivity

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3 135 analyses were performed in which patients with prior SARS-CoV-2 were excluded, time  
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5 136 reduced to just two periods (periods 1-3 and 4-6), and infections prior to 15<sup>th</sup> January (when  
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7 137 the earliest patients reached 10 days post second-dose vaccination) were excluded.  
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## 10 138 **Results**

11  
12 139 Between 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021, SARS-CoV-2 infection was detected by  
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14 140 PCR in 1323 haemodialysis patients (aged 18-95 years, 60% male, with ethnicity grouped as  
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16 141 Asian/other 30%, Black 38% and White 32%) with a bimodal epidemic time course (Figure 1).  
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18 142 Patients began receiving first-dose vaccination from 10<sup>th</sup> December and second-dose  
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20 143 vaccination from 5<sup>th</sup> January.

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22  
23 144 At the time of diagnosis, 1047 patients (79.1%) were unvaccinated, 86 (6.5%) were at least 10  
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25 145 days beyond their first dose, and 190 (14.4%) were at least 10 days beyond their second dose.  
26  
27 146 The majority of PCR samples were taken in the dialysis unit as part of weekly surveillance, or  
28  
29 147 in response to exposure or symptoms, but 6% were taken on a Sunday, therefore at least this  
30  
31 148 many were taken in an emergency healthcare setting. Immune suppressing treatments were  
32  
33 149 taken by 164 patients (12.4%), of which 44% were on tacrolimus or cyclosporin monotherapy,  
34  
35 150 20% were on monotherapy with steroids, azathioprine or mycophenolate, 19% were on  
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37 151 combinations of these, and 17% had been receiving cytotoxic chemotherapy or biologic  
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39 152 agents. Further patient characteristics are given in Table 1.

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41 153 A mild course was observed in 808 patients (61.1%) who did not require admission, but 378  
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43 154 (28.6%) at least required oxygen and 172 (13.0%) died before 28 days. SARS-CoV-2 was  
44  
45 155 thought incidental to the illness and death in 22 cases, so that Covid-19 was the cause of  
46  
47 156 death in 150 cases (11.3% of all cases, 87.2% of deaths within 28 days). The performance of  
48  
49 157 clinical variables in predicting disease severity is shown in Table 2: older age, diabetes and  
50  
51 158 immune suppressing treatment were associated with greater illness severity, as were later  
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53 159 time periods (when Delta emerged as the dominant SARS-CoV-2 strain in London).

54  
55 160 Compared to unvaccinated patients, adverse clinical outcomes were observed less than half  
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57 161 as often in patients testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 at least 10 days after the second dose. In  
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59 162 logistic regression models adjusted for demographics, comorbidity and time period, more  
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163 163 substantial effects were seen with vaccination associated with a 75% (95%CI: 56-86)

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3 164 reduction in admissions and an 88% (95%CI: 70-95) reduction in deaths (Table 2). Modest  
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5 165 differences were observed after just the first dose, with a 45% (95%CI: 3-69) reduction in  
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7 166 admissions.  
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10 167 The protection associated with vaccination was most obvious in patients over 65 years, in  
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12 168 whom severe outcomes were reduced at least as much after vaccination as in their younger  
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14 169 peers. No difference was seen in vaccine associated protection with respect to vaccine type,  
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16 170 and neither was there any waning effect observed over time, with similar reductions in severe  
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18 171 outcomes observed following second doses given less or more than 4 months previously  
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20 172 (following vaccine by median(IQR) 3.0(2.2-3.5) or 5.0(4.5-5.5) months respectively, Figure 2,  
21  
22 173 Supplementary Table 1).  
23

24 174 In sensitivity analyses, very similar vaccine effects were seen when those with prior SARS-  
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26 175 CoV-2 were excluded, when time was reduced to two periods, or when infections prior to 15<sup>th</sup>  
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28 176 January were excluded (Supplementary Table 2).  
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## 30 177 **Discussion**

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33 178 In this multi-centre study of haemodialysis patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection, significant  
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35 179 protection from severe disease was seen after two-dose vaccination, with hospitalisations  
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37 180 reduced by 75% (95%CI: 56-86) and deaths by 88% (95%CI: 70-95). This suggests a substantial  
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39 181 clinical benefit from vaccination in a population which is particularly vulnerable. Some  
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41 182 efficacy was seen after a single dose, underlining the importance of early vaccination in  
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43 183 vulnerable groups.  
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45 184 Although several studies have examined immunogenicity, very few have estimated the clinical  
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47 185 efficacy of vaccination in haemodialysis patients. In an early study, the majority of patients  
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49 186 in one UK haemodialysis unit were vaccinated with BNT162b2 on 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> January 2021 <sup>13</sup>. Over  
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51 187 two month's observation, two patients developed asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection,  
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53 188 compared to nine fatal cases occurring in the unit in the previous two months. However,  
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55 189 there was no adjustment for community case load, which was falling in the UK during this  
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57 190 time. Perhaps the best data come from a French study in which two national haemodialysis  
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59 191 registries were cross referenced <sup>14</sup>. Over one month, new SARS-CoV-2 infections were  
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192 identified in 1.98, 0.65 and 0.25% of unvaccinated, post-first-dose and post-second-dose

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3 193 patients respectively, though again, local community risk was not included. Mortality  
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5 194 remained high in vaccinated patients at 11%, however, comparing 125 cases post-second-  
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7 195 dose vaccination, to 1122 cases in unvaccinated patients, severe illness and death were  
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9 196 reduced by around half.

10  
11 197 However, clinical efficacy of vaccination is critically dependent on diagnostic threshold, since  
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13 198 severe events are easy to detect whereas asymptomatic infection is often missed. This study,  
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15 199 in which all cases came from a population screened weekly by PCR, so that few infections  
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17 200 would be missed, therefore improves on prior studies, providing reliable and fully adjusted  
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19 201 estimates of the effect of vaccination on disease severity. Without vaccination, outcomes are  
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21 202 poor in haemodialysis patients <sup>2</sup>, therefore, whilst substantially protected compared to their  
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23 203 unvaccinated peers, vaccinated haemodialysis patients remain at high risk for adverse  
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25 204 outcomes when compared to individuals without kidney disease.

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27 205 Alongside clinical efficacy, the effect of vaccination can also be measured by immunogenicity:  
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29 206 the ability of a vaccine to induce antibody and cellular immune responses in patients.  
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31 207 Although one step removed from clinical outcome, immune characterisation provides a more  
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33 208 mechanistic understanding of protection, and responses can be measured at an individual  
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35 209 level, potentially indicating individual risk. But impaired immunogenicity in a vulnerable  
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37 210 group compared to healthy controls, does not imply reduced clinical efficacy, which relies on  
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39 211 comparison with unvaccinated members of the same vulnerable group.

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41 212 Following vaccination with two doses of BNT162b2 in previously uninfected dialysis patients,  
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43 213 neutralising antibody levels were comparable with those of healthy controls, though this was  
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45 214 not the case for AZD1222, after which titres were less effective in neutralising most variants,  
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47 215 including Delta <sup>6</sup>. The lack of difference between vaccine types in the current study doesn't  
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49 216 exclude such an effect, but it is reassuring that despite poorer immunogenicity, AZD1222 was  
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51 217 clearly associated with clinical protection.

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53 218 It is also somewhat reassuring to note the persistence of effect, albeit over short time frames  
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55 219 (75% of cases occurring over 4 months after their second dose, were still within 5.5 months).  
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57 220 when there is concern that vaccine responses may wane over time <sup>15</sup>. Antibody levels also  
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59 221 wane after prior infection, though this does not necessarily diminish clinical protection: Clarke  
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3 222 observed 129 seropositive haemodialysis patients over 6 months, finding antibody no longer  
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5 223 detectable in 10 of 111 patients with paired serology, but robust protection from re-infection  
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7 224 in the group <sup>16</sup>. No protective effect was seen due to prior infection in the current study,  
8  
9 225 perhaps since this group was small (N=45). This could be due to misclassification, since those  
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11 226 with asymptomatic infection before the study period may not have been tested, or due to  
12  
13 227 protection from re-infection in those with prior SARS-CoV-2.

14  
15 228 It is also reassuring that older patients appeared to benefit as much as their younger peers.  
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17 229 Studies assessing protection from symptomatic infection in healthy individuals have reported  
18  
19 230 either reduced efficacy in older people, for example from BNT162b2 in those over 70 <sup>17</sup>, or  
20  
21 231 similar efficacy, for example from AZD1222 (efficacy 84(54-91)% in those over 65 vs 73(63-  
22  
23 232 80)% in those under 65) <sup>18</sup>. Protection from more severe outcomes such as admission appears  
24  
25 233 similar, for example first-dose vaccination was 83% effective in preventing admission in those  
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27 234 over 80 <sup>19</sup>.

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29 235 Noticeable in this study was the increase in mortality over time, which may reflect emergence  
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31 236 of Delta, associated with more severe outcomes <sup>20</sup>, as the dominant variant in London <sup>12</sup>.  
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33 237 While differences in vaccine type could be postulated, BNT162b2 and AZD1222 appear similar  
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35 238 in their effect on Alpha and Delta variants <sup>21</sup>. A large study of UK haemodialysis patients found  
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37 239 no clear difference between variants in neutralization titres after two vaccine doses <sup>6</sup>.

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39 240 This study has several important limitations, in particular only addressing clinical severity  
40  
41 241 once individuals are infected, without addressing the likelihood of acquiring infection.  
42  
43 242 Prevention of infection has been demonstrated in household contacts with BNT162b2  
44  
45 243 appearing 80% effective <sup>22</sup>.

46  
47 244 These results are relevant to vaccine uptake and third dose policy. Vaccine hesitancy remains  
48  
49 245 a problem in this population, and in a US survey, many dialysis patients identified with the  
50  
51 246 statement “I am concerned that the vaccine will not work” <sup>23</sup>. This study may therefore be  
52  
53 247 useful in reducing vaccine hesitancy, which has resulted in low uptake in some countries, for  
54  
55 248 example Australia, where almost a quarter of dialysis patients declined <sup>24</sup>. Dialysis patients  
56  
57 249 remain vulnerable, and this study does nothing to diminish enthusiasm for third doses, which  
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59 250 appear beneficial as two-dose protection starts to wane: in a healthy population during a  
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3 251 Delta predominant phase, third doses of BNT162b2 were estimated to be 81% effective in  
4  
5 252 preventing death, compared to two doses at least 5 months earlier <sup>25</sup>.

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7  
8 253 This study therefore demonstrates that vaccination is associated with a substantially lower  
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10 254 risk of severe clinical outcomes in haemodialysis patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection.  
11  
12 255 Although significant vulnerability remains, this population have much to gain from  
13  
14 256 vaccination, regardless of age or vaccine type. These results support a policy of promoting  
15  
16 257 and prioritising vaccination in this vulnerable group.

### 17 18 258 **Author Contributions**

19  
20 259 DA, BC, DB and AS conceived the study;  
21  
22 260 All authors curated the data;  
23  
24 261 DA, BC and RC analysed the data;  
25  
26 262 DA and RC drafted the paper which was modified by other authors;  
27  
28 263 All authors approved the final version of the manuscript

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## 294 **Supplementary materials**

295 Contents

296 Supplementary Table 1. Association of second-dose vaccination with clinical outcome in  
 297 subgroups with SARS-CoV-2 infection.

298 Supplementary Table 2. Association of second-dose vaccination with clinical outcome in  
 299 sensitivity analyses.

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370 **Table 1.** Characteristics and outcome of patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection stratified by vaccination status.  
 371

	Unvaccinated	First dose (>10d post)	Second dose (>10d post)	Total
N	1047	86	190	1323
Days after dose, median(IQR)		25.5 (18-52)	126.5 (95-153)	
Age, median(IQR)	61 (53-72)	70.5 (58-79)	63 (52-73)	62 (53-73)
Gender Male	622 (59.4)	58 (67.4)	117 (61.6)	797 (60.2)
Ethnicity Asian/other	332 (31.7)	16 (18.6)	50 (26.3)	398 (30.1)
Black	401 (38.3)	28 (32.6)	79 (41.6)	508 (38.4)
White	314 (30.0)	42 (48.8)	61 (32.1)	417 (31.5)
Diabetes	484 (46.2)	42 (48.8)	93 (48.9)	619 (46.8)
Immune suppression <sup>a</sup>	117 (11.2)	14 (16.3)	33 (17.4)	164 (12.4)
Prior SARS-CoV-2 <sup>b</sup>	29 (2.8)	4 (4.7)	12 (6.3)	45 (3.4)
Outcome Admission <14 days	436 (41.6)	33 (38.4)	46 (24.2)	515 (38.9)
Oxygen <28 days	329 (31.4)	23 (26.7)	26 (13.7)	378 (28.6)
Ventilation <28 days	185 (17.7)	17 (19.8)	18 (9.5)	220 (16.6)
Death <28 days	148 (14.1)	12 (14.0)	12 (6.3)	172 (13.0)

372 Except where stated data are N (%)

373 <sup>a</sup>Any immune suppression treatment including steroids, tacrolimus, mycophenolate, azathioprine, cytotoxic and biologic agents

374 <sup>b</sup>PCR positive at least 90 days prior to the current infection

375

376 **Table 2.** Factors associated with clinical outcomes in patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection.

377

		Admission <14 days	Oxygen <28 days	Ventilation <28 days	Death <28 days
Age	/year	<b>1.028</b> (1.019-1.037)	<b>1.032</b> (1.022-1.042)	<b>1.039</b> (1.027-1.052)	<b>1.057</b> (1.042-1.073)
Gender	Male	1.094 (0.864-1.385)	0.920 (0.712-1.188)	0.891 (0.655-1.211)	0.923 (0.652-1.306)
Ethnicity <sup>a</sup>	Asian / other	0.866 (0.653-1.147)	0.825 (0.606-1.121)	0.762 (0.532-1.093)	0.807 (0.538-1.211)
	Black	0.999 (0.740-1.347)	0.849 (0.611-1.179)	0.757 (0.510-1.124)	0.704 (0.446-1.113)
Diabetes		<b>1.340</b> (1.059-1.694)	<b>1.371</b> (1.062-1.769)	1.321 (0.973-1.794)	1.304 (0.924-1.839)
Immune suppression <sup>b</sup>		<b>1.632</b> (1.141-2.333)	<b>1.788</b> (1.219-2.623)	<b>1.658</b> (1.051-2.618)	1.465 (0.852-2.521)
Prior SARS-CoV-2 <sup>c</sup>		0.552 (0.273-1.118)	0.526 (0.233-1.185)	0.782 (0.315-1.945)	0.917 (0.339-2.485)
Time period	2	1.122 (0.858-1.468)	1.025 (0.769-1.366)	1.161 (0.818-1.648)	1.177 (0.796-1.741)
	3	1.375 (0.789-2.395)	0.753 (0.400-1.419)	0.863 (0.405-1.840)	0.725 (0.292-1.797)
	4	<b>2.045</b> (1.143-3.659)	1.619 (0.863-3.039)	1.614 (0.756-3.448)	1.405 (0.550-3.590)
	5	1.914 (0.984-3.721)	<b>2.170</b> (1.053-4.473)	<b>2.347</b> (1.011-5.447)	<b>3.730</b> (1.482-9.384)
	6	1.573 (0.805-3.076)	1.701 (0.825-3.507)	<b>2.657</b> (1.194-5.913)	<b>4.397</b> (1.851-10.44)
Vaccination	>10d post 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>0.550</b> (0.312-0.970)	0.632 (0.340-1.175)	0.852 (0.425-1.710)	0.685 (0.309-1.522)
	>10d post 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>0.247</b> (0.139-0.440)	<b>0.178</b> (0.093-0.341)	<b>0.221</b> (0.104-0.470)	<b>0.122</b> (0.051-0.295)

378 Odds ratio (95% CI) by multivariable logistic regression model

379 <sup>a</sup>Reference ethnicity White

380 <sup>b</sup>Any immune suppression treatment including steroids, tacrolimus, mycophenolate, azathioprine, cytotoxic and biologic agents

381 <sup>c</sup>PCR positive at least 90 days prior to the current infection

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3 382 **Figure legends**  
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9 384 **Figure 1. Epidemic time course.** Number of new SARS-CoV-2 infections by date and  
10 vaccination status.  
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16 387 **Figure 2. Estimated vaccine efficacy.** Reduction in clinical outcomes associated with second-  
17 dose vaccination, unadjusted and in adjusted model, and adjusted effectiveness in subgroups.  
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20 389 N = number of SARS-CoV-2 infections at least 10 days after the second vaccine dose in each  
21 group. Estimated vaccine efficacy calculated as  $1 - \text{odds ratio}$ .  
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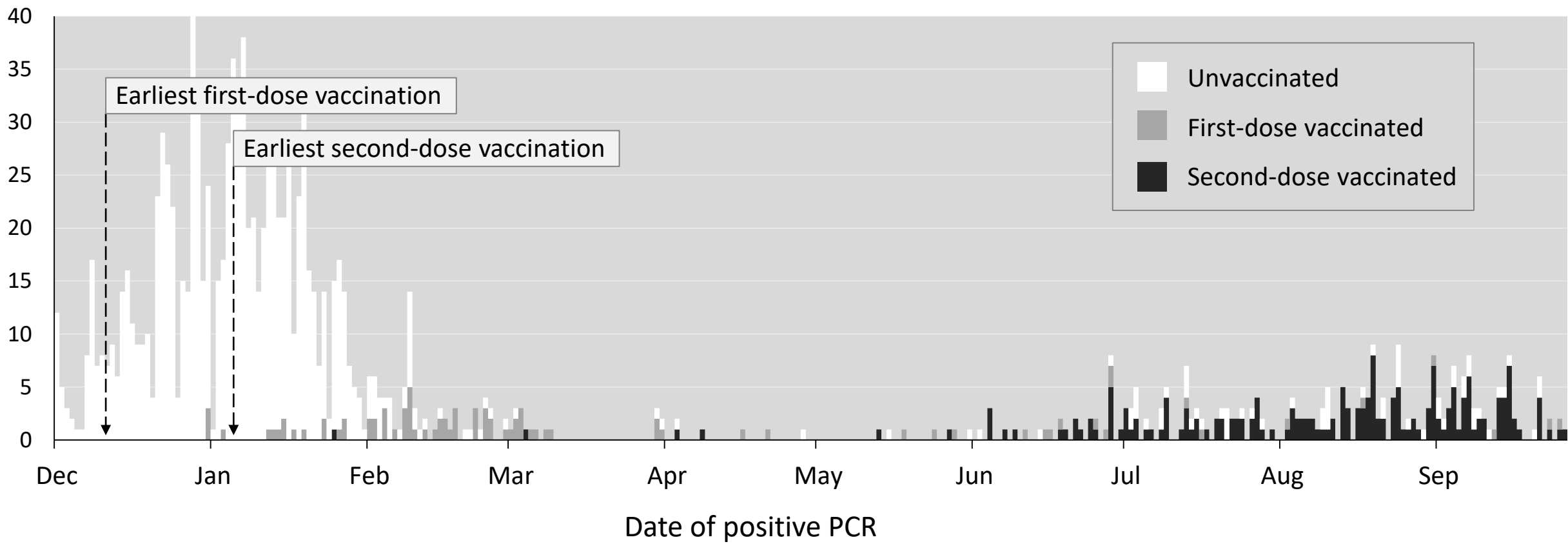
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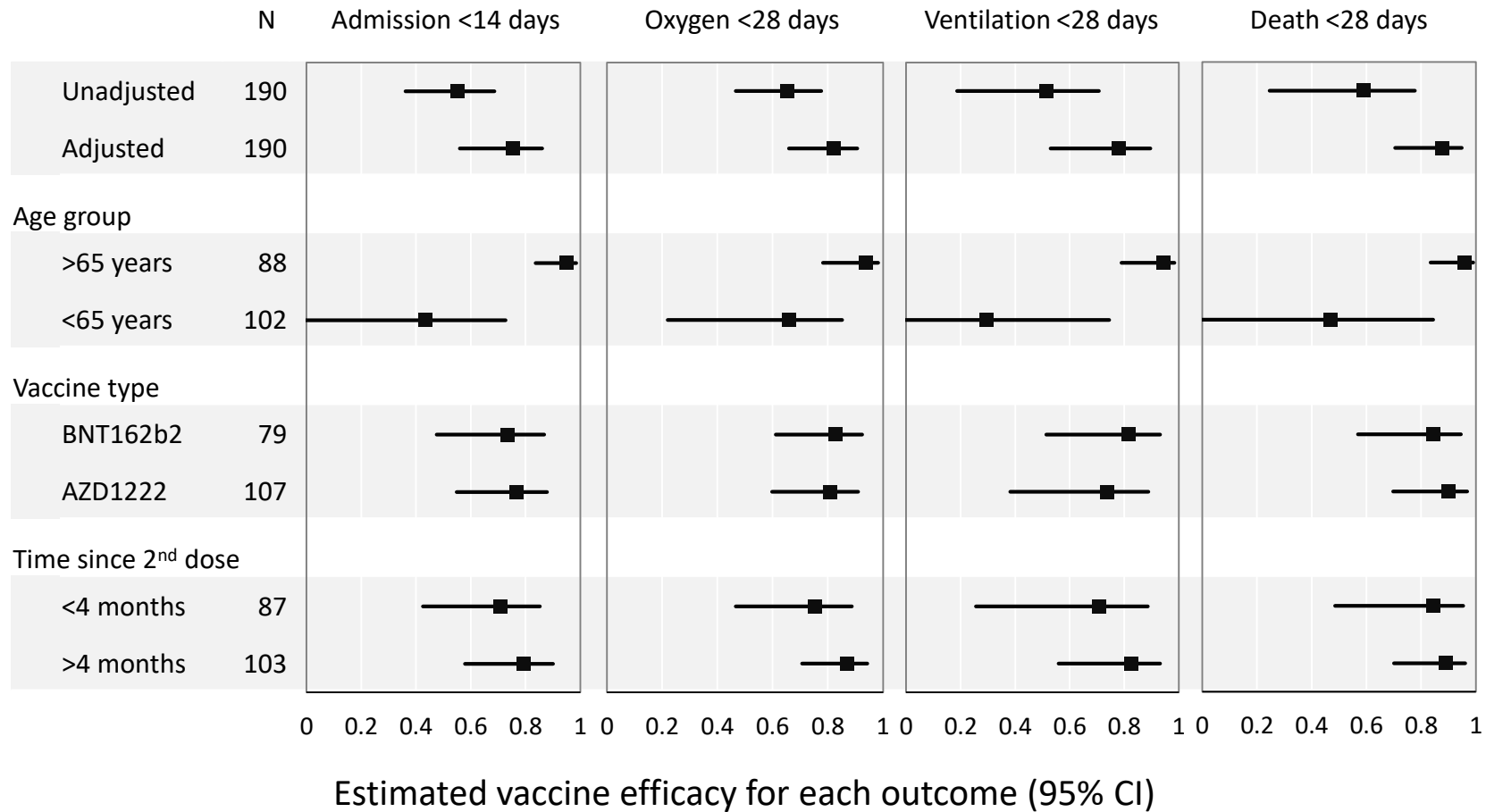
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**Figure 1. Epidemic time course.** Number of new SARS-CoV-2 infections by date and vaccination status.

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**Figure 2. Estimated vaccine efficacy.** Reduction in clinical outcomes associated with second-dose vaccination, unadjusted and in adjusted model, and adjusted effectiveness in subgroups. N = number of SARS-CoV-2 infections at least 10 days after the second vaccine dose in each group. Estimated vaccine efficacy calculated as 1 – odds ratio.



**Supplementary materials**

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Contents

Supplementary Table 1

Supplementary Table 2

**Supplementary Table 1.** Association of second-dose vaccination with clinical outcome in subgroups with SARS-CoV-2 infection.

Subgroup	N <sup>a</sup>	Admission <14 days	Oxygen <28 days	Ventilation <28 days	Death <28 days	
Age group	>65 years	88	<b>0.049</b> (0.015-0.163)	<b>0.063</b> (0.018-0.218)	<b>0.058</b> (0.016-0.210)	<b>0.041</b> (0.010-0.165)
	<65 years	102	0.566 (0.273-1.171)	<b>0.340</b> (0.148-0.780)	0.707 (0.255-1.961)	0.531 (0.156-1.803)
Vaccine type	BNT162b2	79	<b>0.264</b> (0.132-0.525)	<b>0.172</b> (0.076-0.388)	<b>0.184</b> (0.069-0.486)	<b>0.154</b> (0.055-0.431)
	AZD1222	107	<b>0.234</b> (0.121-0.452)	<b>0.190</b> (0.090-0.402)	<b>0.263</b> (0.112-0.618)	<b>0.098</b> (0.032-0.302)
Time since <sup>b</sup>	<4 months	87	<b>0.292</b> (0.148-0.575)	<b>0.245</b> (0.113-0.534)	<b>0.292</b> (0.114-0.744)	<b>0.154</b> (0.046-0.515)
	>4 months	103	<b>0.206</b> (0.100-0.421)	<b>0.129</b> (0.057-0.293)	<b>0.175</b> (0.069-0.441)	<b>0.108</b> (0.039-0.299)

Odds ratio (95% CI), including variables in Table 2, within subgroup comparing second-dose with no vaccination

<sup>a</sup>Number of infections >10 days after second dose within subgroup

<sup>b</sup>Time since second dose

**Supplementary Table 2.** Association of second-dose vaccination with clinical outcome in sensitivity analyses.

Condition	N <sup>a</sup>	Admission <14 days	Oxygen <28 days	Ventilation <28 days	Death <28 days
Prior SARS-CoV-2 excluded	178 / 1278	<b>0.241</b> (0.133-0.436)	<b>0.172</b> (0.089-0.335)	<b>0.199</b> (0.092-0.431)	<b>0.119</b> (0.049-0.290)
Two time periods	190 / 1323	<b>0.254</b> (0.144-0.447)	<b>0.179</b> (0.095-0.337)	<b>0.231</b> (0.111-0.479)	<b>0.141</b> (0.061-0.327)
Before 15 <sup>th</sup> January excluded	190 / 636	<b>0.260</b> (0.144-0.469)	<b>0.184</b> (0.094-0.359)	<b>0.259</b> (0.121-0.553)	<b>0.127</b> (0.051-0.318)

Odds ratio (95% CI), including variables in Table 2, comparing second-dose with no vaccination, under condition specified

<sup>a</sup>Number of infections >10 days after second dose / total group size