

RECOVERY Central Coordinating Office
Nuffield Department of Population Health
Richard Doll Building
Old Road Campus
Roosevelt Drive
Oxford OX3 7LF

29th November 2021

Dear RECOVERY collaborators

Re: Temporary postponement of launch of influenza treatment assessments

As you know, we have been intending to implement V19.1 of the RECOVERY trial protocol today which includes assessments of three potential treatments for influenza pneumonia. However, in the light of the emergence of the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has asked us to temporarily postpone this implementation until it is clearer what impact this variant may have for both the NHS and the RECOVERY trial.

We appreciate the significant amount of work that you and your colleagues have put into getting ready for this amendment. This work will not be wasted, as we are committed to implementing this amendment as soon as possible.

We will provide an update to you within the next 2-3 weeks. In the meantime, we will continue to work with DHSC and the Chief Medical Officers to determine the best timing to commence the influenza comparisons and consider whether additional interventions to deal with COVID-19 should be evaluated in RECOVERY


We will still hold our collaborators' meetings at 4pm today and tomorrow. These will provide a brief update on progress and future plans for our COVID-19 treatment assessments and there will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have.

Many thanks for all your work and support for RECOVERY.

Yours sincerely



Prof Sir Peter Horby FMedSci



Prof Sir Martin Landray FMedSci

Chief Investigators for the RECOVERY trial