Beyond Words
empowering people through pictures

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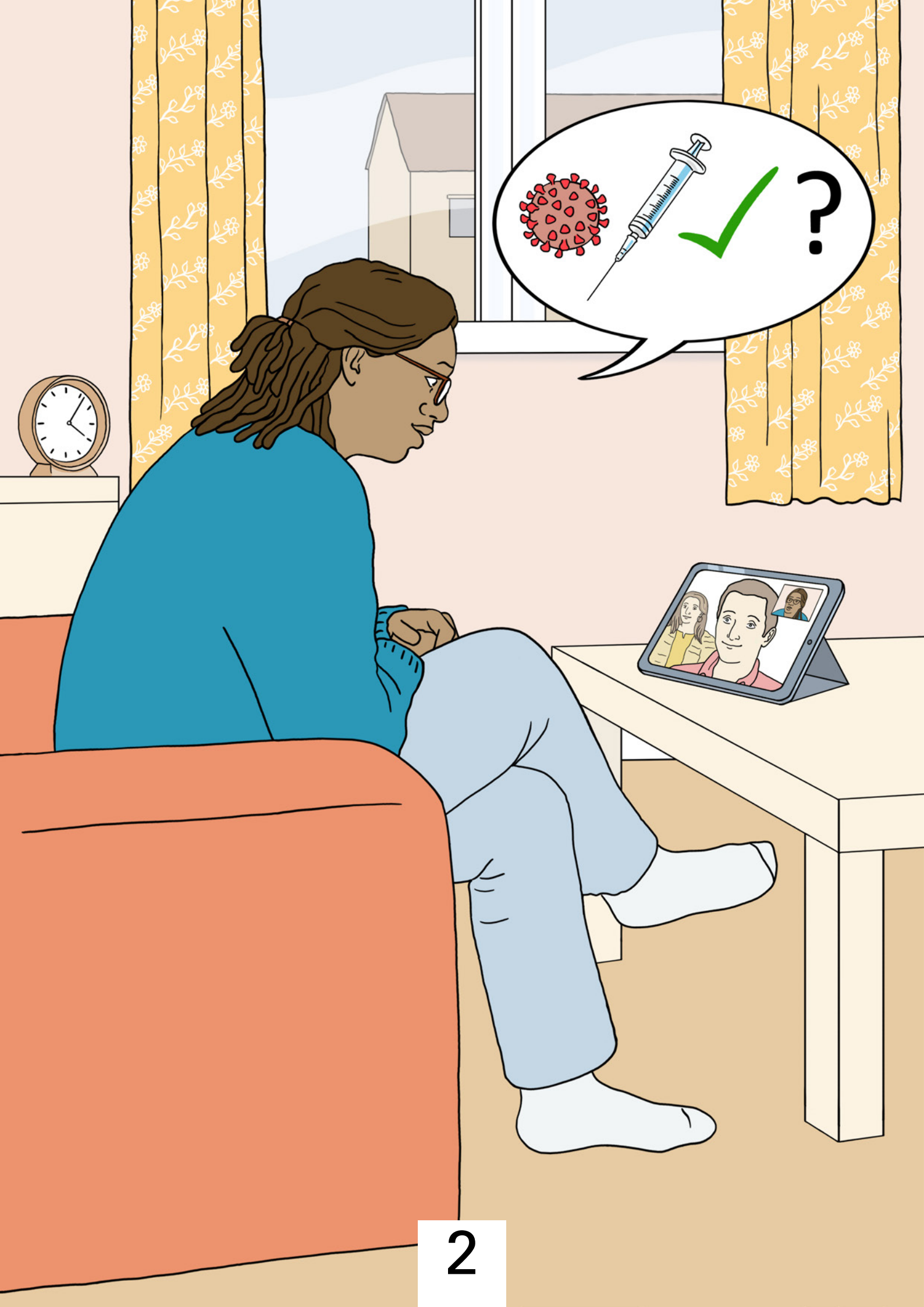
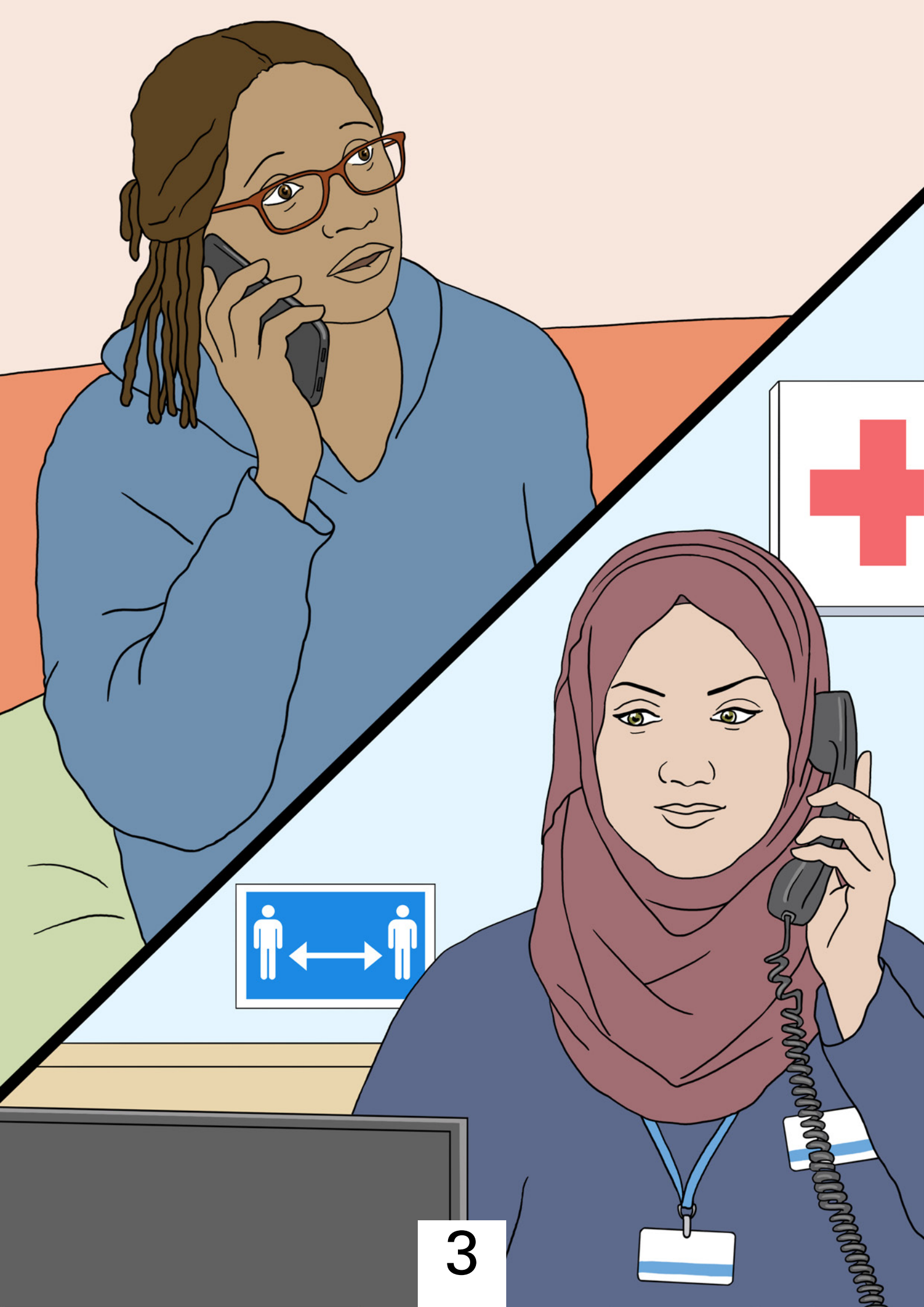
Having a Vaccine for Coronavirus

By Sheila Hollins
illustrated by Lucy Bergonzi

A Day at the Beach

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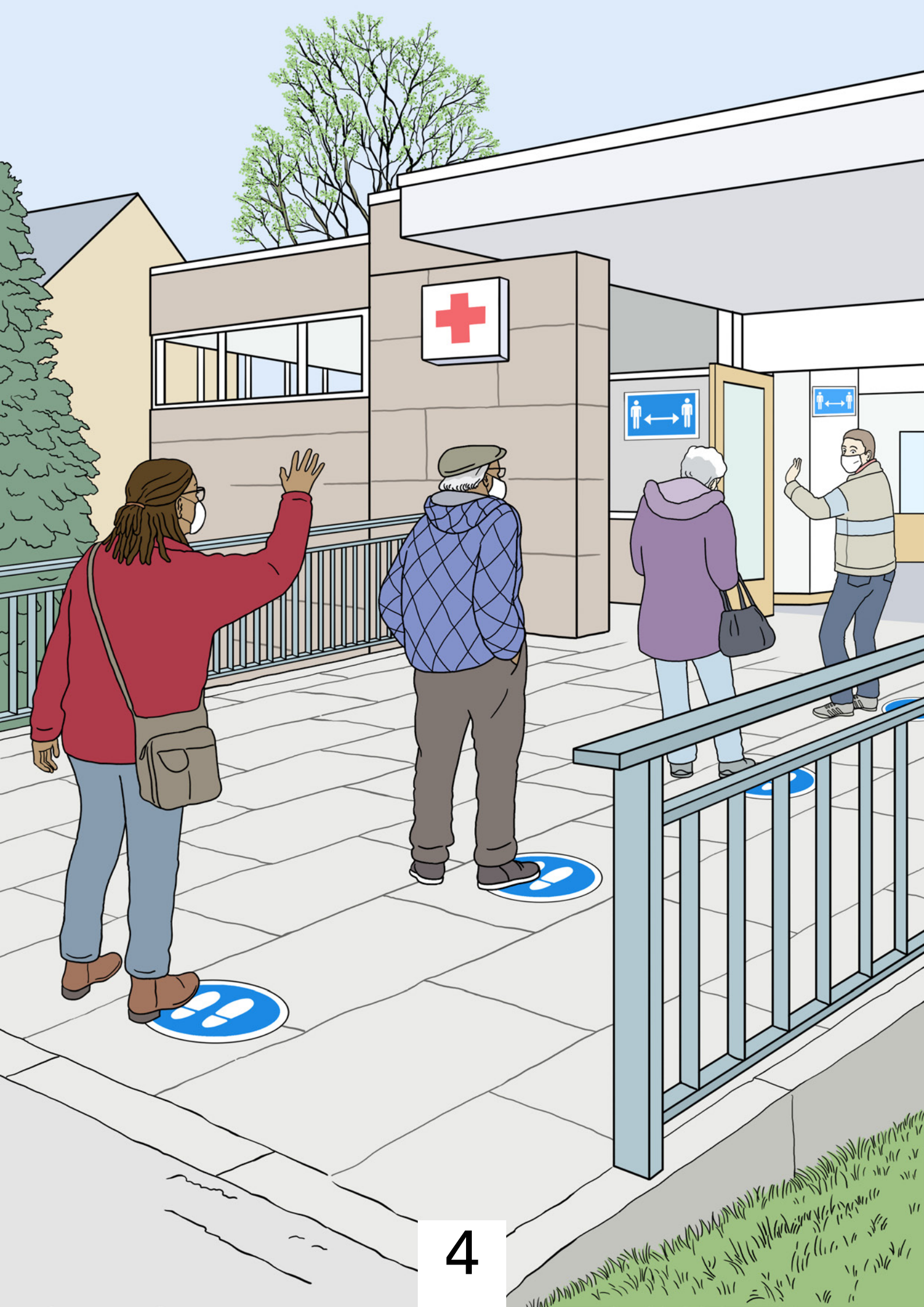

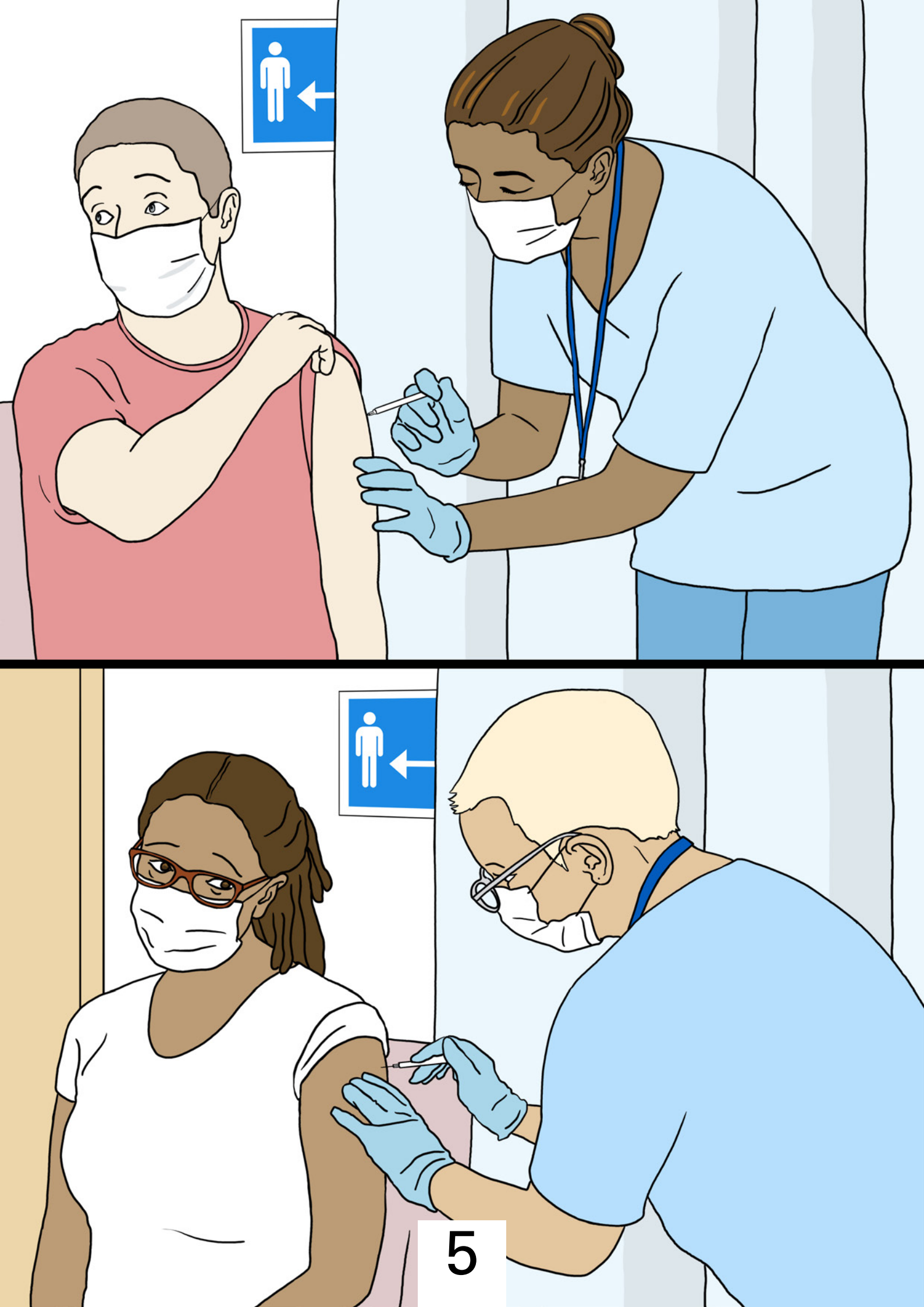

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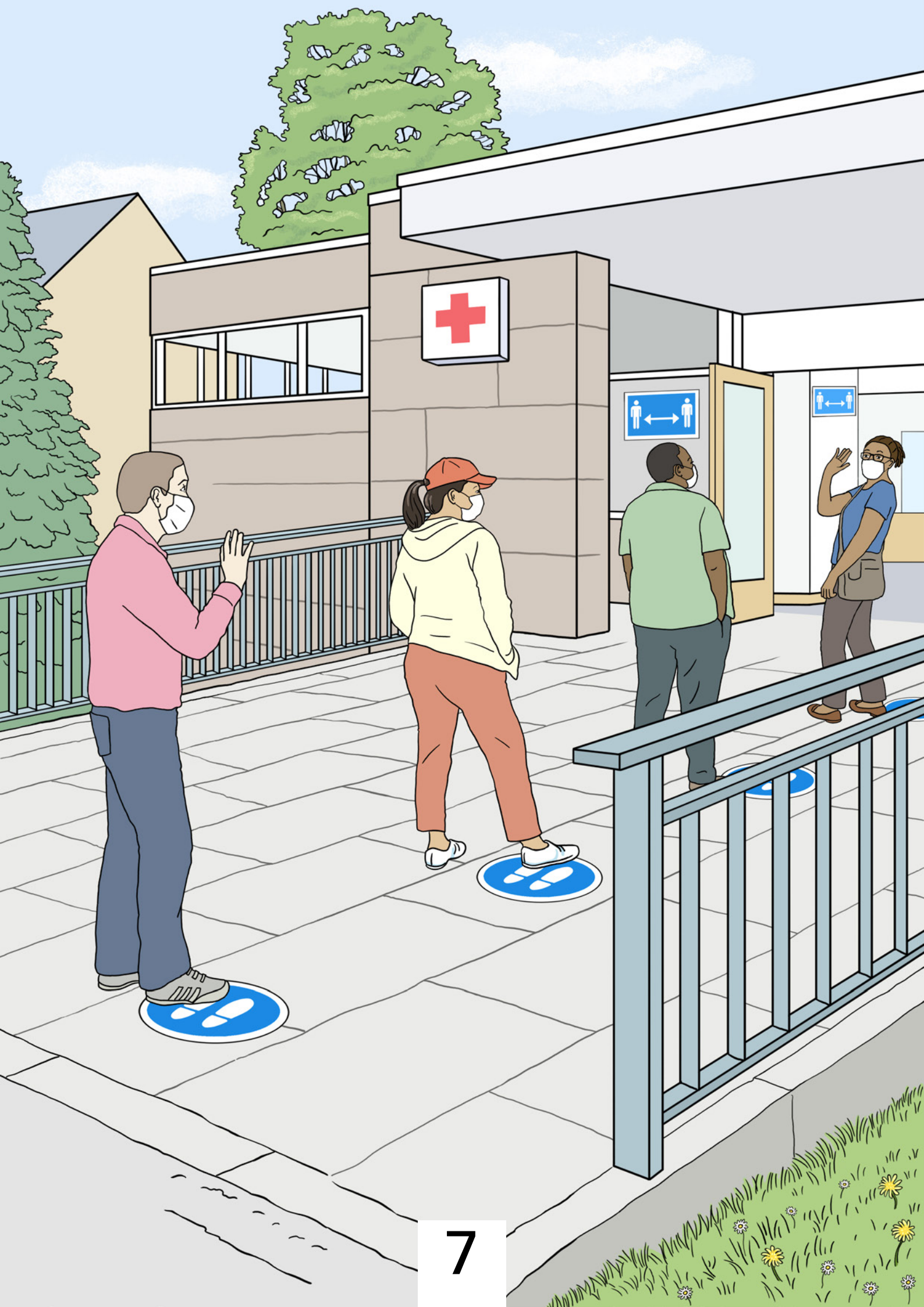

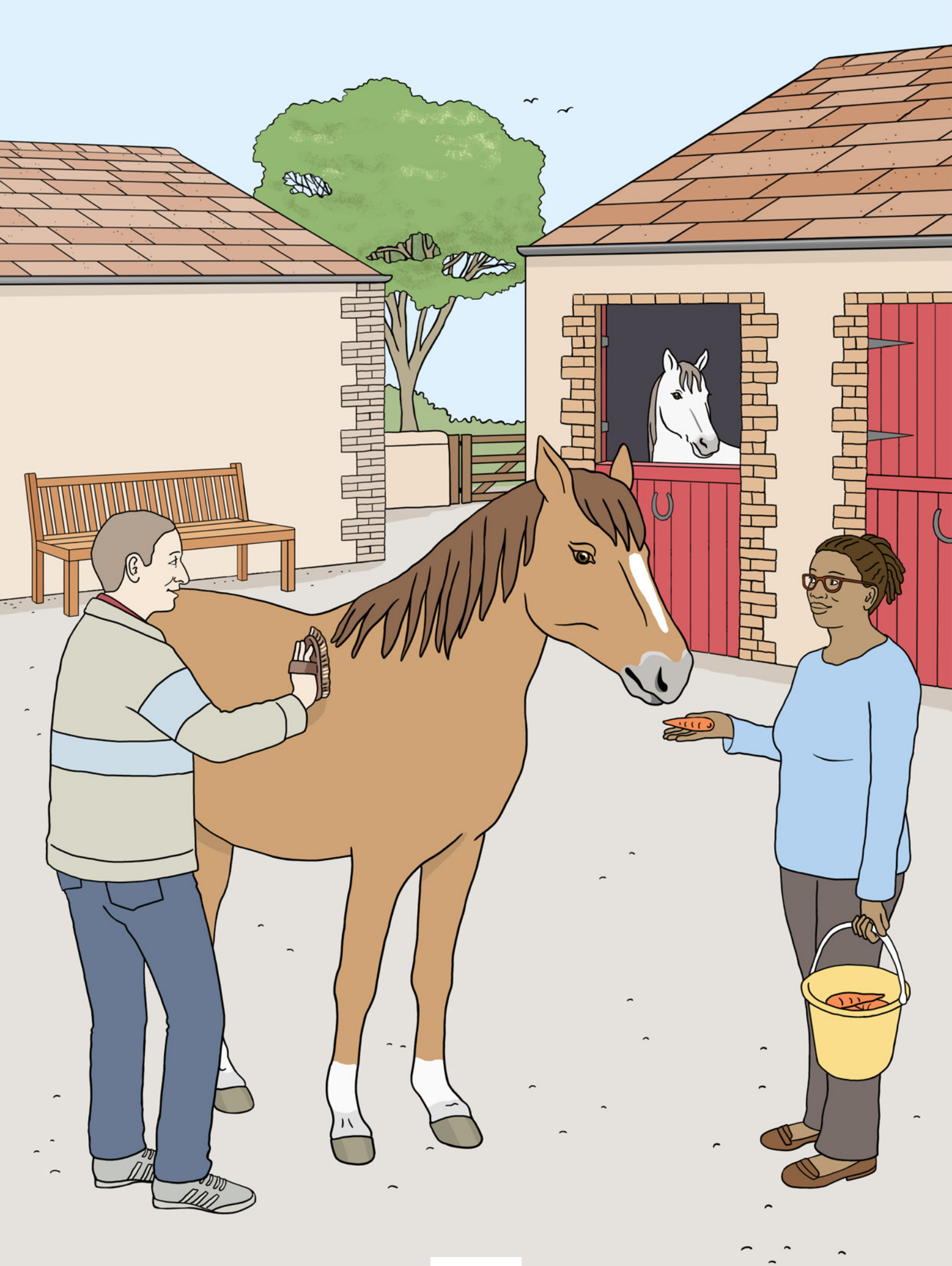

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A possible storyline

The following words are provided for readers and supporters who want some ideas about one possible story. Most readers make their own story up from the pictures.

1. Kali watches the news. It says there is a new vaccine to stop people getting ill from coronavirus.
2. Kali has a videocall with Stefan. They talk about the vaccine and how it makes them feel. Kali thinks the vaccine is a good idea to keep people safe. Injections make Stefan feel nervous, but he thinks the vaccine is important.
3. Kali gets a call from her GP surgery. They ask if she wants to have the coronavirus vaccine. Kali says, "Yes," and makes an appointment.
4. Kali goes to have her first vaccine. She sees Stefan in the queue. He is getting his vaccine, too!
5. Kali and Stefan both have the vaccine. It's very quick.
6. Kali and Stefan meet up to go for walks outside. They still have to keep 2 metres apart.
7. Kali and Stefan go back for their second dose of the vaccine.
8. The nurses give them their second vaccine.
9. Kali and Stefan still have to be careful, even though they have each had two doses of the vaccine. They meet outside for walks in the fresh air.
10. Sometimes, they go to the stables to groom and feed the horses. They enjoy spending more time together.
11. It's a few weeks since Kali and Stefan had their second vaccines. Shops and cafés are open now. They sit together in their favourite café. They feel happy that they can get close to each other again. It's been a long time!

How to read this story

This is a story for people who find pictures easier to understand than words. It is not necessary to be able to read any words at all.

1. Start at the beginning and read the story in each picture. Encourage the reader to turn the pages at their own pace.

2. Whether you are reading the book with one person or a group, encourage people to tell the story in their own words. You will discover what each person thinks are happening, what they already know, and how they feel. You may think something different is happening in the pictures yourself, but that doesn't matter. Wait to see if their ideas change as the story develops. Watch, wait and wonder.

3. It can help to prompt the people you are supporting, gradually going deeper into the meaning, for example:
   - I wonder who that is?
   - I wonder what is happening?
   - What is he or she doing now?
   - I wonder how he or she is feeling?
   - Do you feel like that? Has it happened to you/ your friend/ your family?

4. Some people will not be able to follow the story, but they may be able to understand some of the pictures. Stay a little longer with the pictures that interest them.

Useful resources in the UK

Take the COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign is a community-based campaign to encourage people to take the vaccine. The website gives information and answers many frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccines.

https://takethecovid19vaccine.com

More information on the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine can be found on the **NHS** website.
www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination

Public Health England has published easy read information about the coronavirus vaccine.
www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-easy-read-resources

Free coronavirus resources from Beyond Words

- Beating the Virus
- Having a Test for Coronavirus
- Good Days and Bad Days During Lockdown
- Jack plans ahead for coronavirus: a guide for carers and family
- When someone dies of coronavirus: a guide for carers and family
- Let's talk about…when someone is ill or dies from coronavirus: online support for people with learning disabilities
- When it's not safe to stay at home: guide to supporting people at risk of abuse at home during coronavirus
- Understanding COVID-19 in Secure Settings

All are available to read online and download for free:
www.booksbeyondwords.co.uk/coping-with-coronavirus

Author and artist

Sheila Hollins is a cross bench life peer in the House of Lords, Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry at St George's, University of London. She was initially a GP then a Consultant Psychiatrist, teacher, researcher and policy maker in intellectual disability.She is the founder and chair of the charity, Beyond Words, formed to use wordless stories to inform and empower people with intellectual disabilities and their carers about life and health. She has been President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, President and Chair of the Board of Science of the British Medical Association. She is currently President of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists.

Lucy Bergonzi has worked as a muralist, theatre designer and community artist. For many years she worked in the voluntary and community sector, with wide experience of supporting people with learning disabilities. She is the illustrator of *Beating the Virus*, *Having a Test for Coronavirus*, *Choosing My First Job*, *A Day at the Beach*, *Going to Church* and *Belonging* for Books Beyond Words. Lucy's website is www.lucybergonzi.co.uk.

About Books Beyond Words

There are 60 wordless (and therefore non-language dependent) stories in the Books Beyond Words series, all co-created with people with learning disabilities and/ or autism. All are available as paperbacks and eBooks: www.booksbeyondwords.co.uk.

The stories have also been broken down into 400 searchable snippets in the **BW Story App** for smartphones and tablets. You can download a free version (with a few sample short stories) from the App Store or the Google Play Store.

If you are new to Books Beyond Words, you can learn how to get the best out of the stories in our introductory e-learning module: www.booksbeyondwords.co.uk/elearning/foundation-module

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