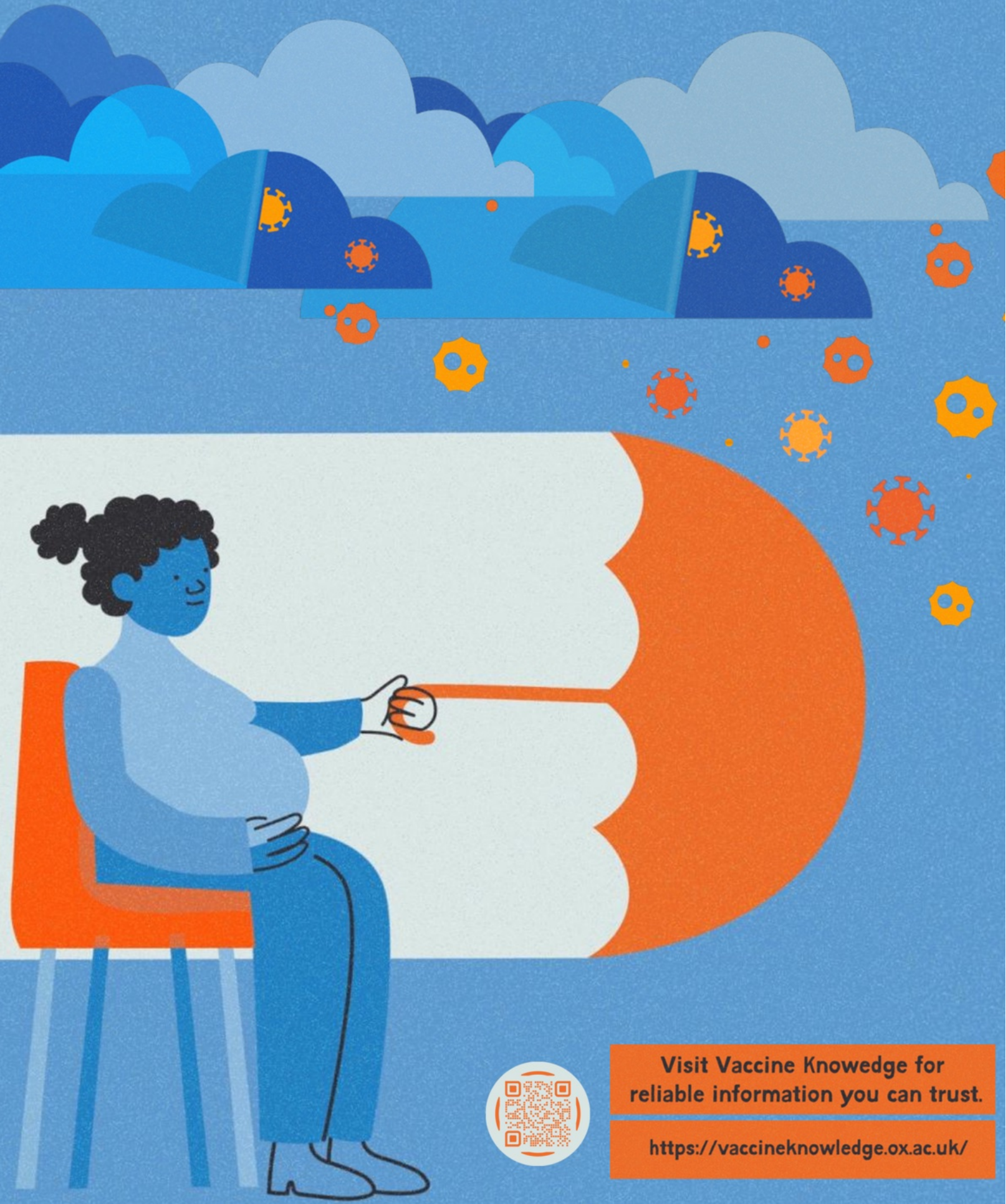


# UMBRELLA OF PROTECTION

## VACCINATION AS A COMMUNITY SHIELD



Visit Vaccine Knowledge for  
reliable information you can trust.

<https://vaccineknowledge.ox.ac.uk/>

# **UMBRELLA OF PROTECTION: VACCINATION AS A COMMUNITY SHIELD**

**Vaccine Knowledge is a source of independent, evidence-based information about  
vaccines and infectious diseases.**

**It is managed by the Oxford Vaccine Group, an academic research group in the  
Department of Paediatrics at the University of Oxford.**

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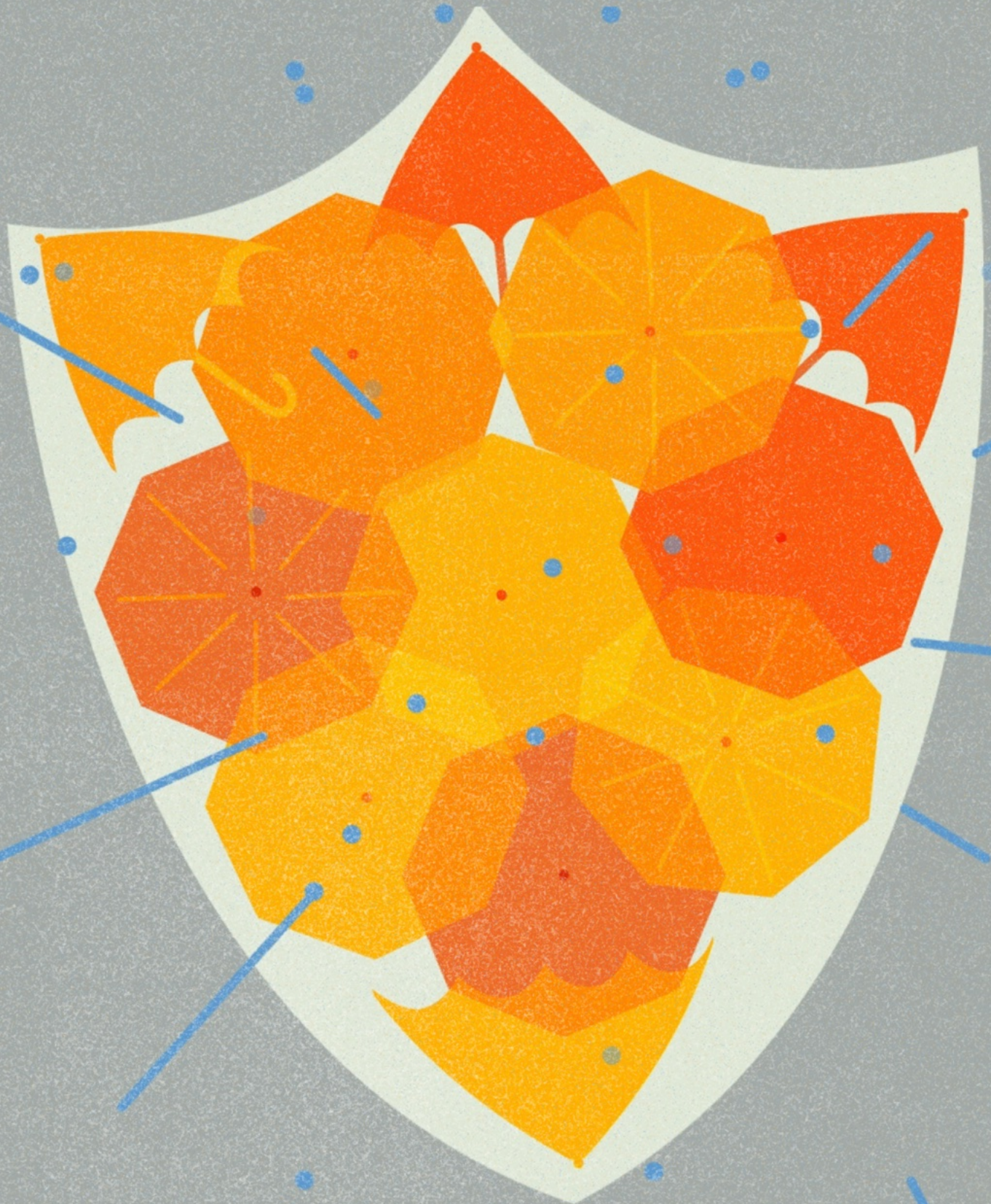


**When the rain begins to pour,**



**umbrellas go up.**

**In a group, this creates a lovely shield,  
meaning that the majority**



**of individuals stay warm and dry.**

## Vaccination works in a similar way



by protecting a community as a whole,



especially those who need it most,  
like babies or frail older people.

But when fewer people pop their umbrellas, this protection decreases.



Vaccines only work for the vulnerable if we all use them.



**It's easy to get complacent  
about being dry**

**when you've always been  
sheltered.**



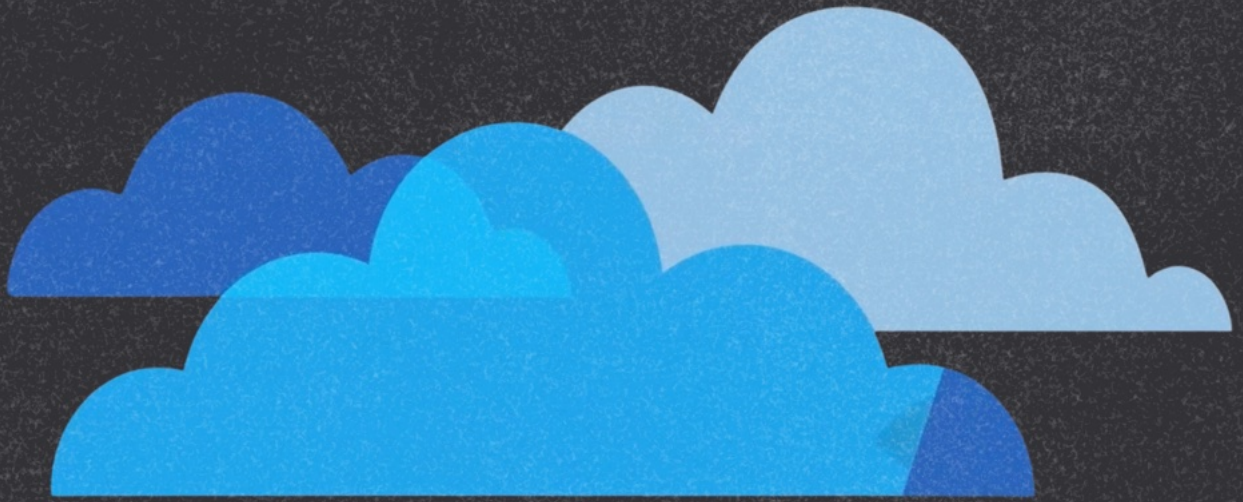


**But when vaccination levels  
drop,**



**a disease that we all assumed  
had disappeared**





**can make a reappearance.**





**Babies don't have their first set of immunisations until they are 8 weeks old. So it's important that their mothers are**



**vaccinated against certain illnesses during pregnancy, since this will protect them until they can be vaccinated themselves.**

**No vaccine can be 100 percent effective,  
as the gaps show.**



**But if fewer umbrellas shield the  
community, more people get wet.**



**Maintaining a consistent, collective umbrella  
of high vaccination levels**



**is crucial for strengthening community  
immunity and keeping everyone as protected  
as possible.**



So put up your own umbrella - for your  
protection



and for those who can't protect themselves.

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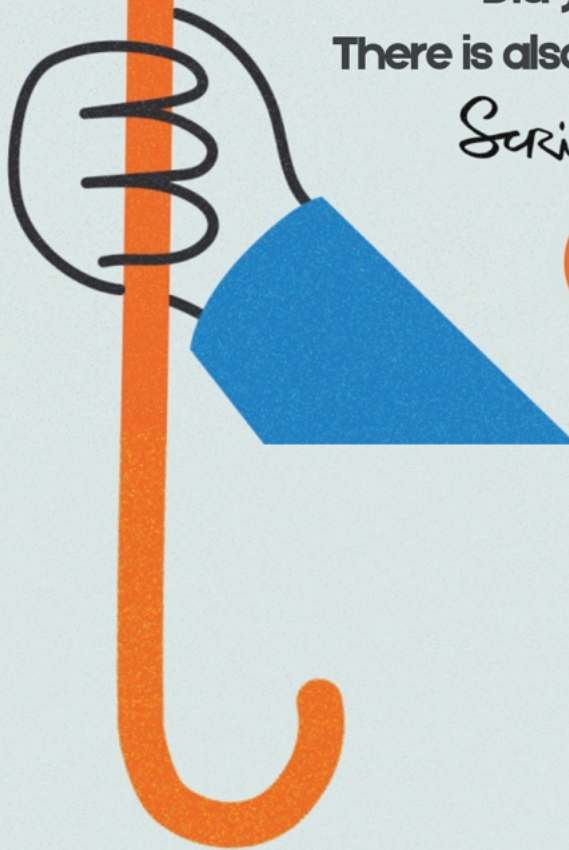
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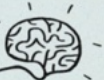
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Did you know...

There is also an animation by

*Scriberia* 



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