

COVID-19 VACCINE

What you need to know



22 April 2021

How do the COVID-19 vaccines work?

Vaccines help a person's body recognise and fight bacteria and viruses that can cause serious illness.

Vaccines are a safe way of producing an immune response in the body without causing illness. They strengthen your immune system by training your body to recognise and fight against specific bacteria and viruses.

The COVID-19 vaccines:

- ✓ do not contain COVID-19.
- ✓ will not give you COVID-19.
- ✓ will not change your genes or your DNA in any way.
- ✓ do not contain any animal, meat, or egg products.

Are the COVID-19 vaccines safe?

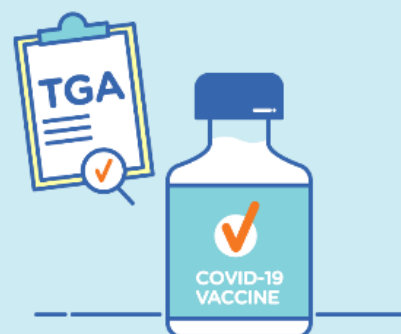
In Australia, all vaccines go through careful testing to make sure they are safe and effective.

Medical experts at the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) check all vaccines regularly by carefully looking at:

- scientific studies
- information about how the vaccines are made
- information about any side effects.

COVID-19 vaccines prevent serious illness and death and help to protect you, your family, and your community.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe



COVID-19
VACCINATION



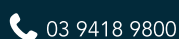
North Richmond Community Health (Wulempuri-Kertheba) stands on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri people. We pay our respects to their elders, past and present.



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Are you eligible?

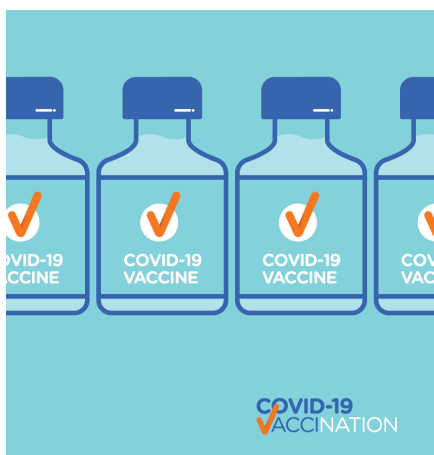
Who can get the COVID-19 vaccines?

Everyone in Australia can get a FREE COVID-19 vaccination when it is their turn.

Scan the QR code or visit www.bit.ly/vaccineeligibilitychecker to see if you are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.

Is the vaccine compulsory?

No, the vaccine is not compulsory.



Where can I get the COVID-19 vaccines?

North Richmond Community Health is pleased to advise that we are an approved vaccination provider for the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines.

For more information, visit our website:
www.nrch.com.au/coronavirus-covid-19

What if I don't have a Medicare card?

If you do NOT have a Medicare card, you can get your vaccination at a respiratory clinic or state or territory vaccination clinic.

Scan the QR code on the right or visit www.bit.ly/respiratoryclinics to see a list of respiratory clinics you can visit to get the COVID-19 vaccines.



List of respiratory clinics



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COVID-19 vaccines: What to expect



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COVID-19 vaccine side
effect checker

What can I expect after getting the COVID-19 vaccination?

After receiving any vaccine, you may experience minor side effects. Most side effects are mild and last no more than a few days.

Common side effects after COVID-19 vaccinations include:

- a sore arm
- headache
- low-level fever
- muscle pain
- chills
- tiredness, or
- joint pain.

If you recently had your first vaccine dose and are experiencing side effects that you are worried about, book an appointment to see your doctor.

Scan the QR code on the left or visit www.bit.ly/covid19vaccinesideeffectchecker to check your side effects.

What is the side effect of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine that everyone is talking about?

There is a very rare case of blood clotting (thrombosis with thrombocytopenia) linked with the AstraZeneca vaccine.


The risk of developing this very rare blood clot is extremely small.



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Is the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine safe?

Yes. The vaccine is safe and effective with the benefits outweighing any possible risk.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommends the AstraZeneca vaccine remains safe to give to people 50 years old and over.

I'm booked in for my first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine, what do I do?

If you are under 50, the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is recommended over the AstraZeneca vaccine.

In some cases, people under 50 might be recommended to receive the AstraZeneca vaccine if the benefits outweigh the risks. Please make an appointment to discuss this with your doctor.

If you are 50 or older, the AstraZeneca vaccine is still recommended for you.

I had my first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine, what do I do now?

If you have received your first dose of AstraZeneca, and have not experienced serious side effects, you can receive a second dose. Please book your second appointment with your clinic and speak to your doctor if you have any concerns.

Need more information?

Call the National Coronavirus and COVID-19 helpline on 1800 020 090.

Scan the QR code on the right or visit www.bit.ly/covid19vaccineinfo to get the most up-to-date information in your language.



COVID-19 vaccines
information in your language



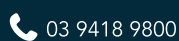
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