



Australian Government

**COVID-19**  
✓ **VACCINATION**

# COVID-19 vaccine



## Who will get the vaccine?

### Easy Read fact sheet



The Australian Government wrote this fact sheet.  
When you see the word 'we', it means the  
Australian Government.



We wrote this fact sheet in an easy to read way.  
We use pictures to explain some ideas.



You can ask for help to read  
this fact sheet. A friend, family  
member or support person  
may be able to help you.



## What is this fact sheet about?

A **vaccine** is a type of medicine that:

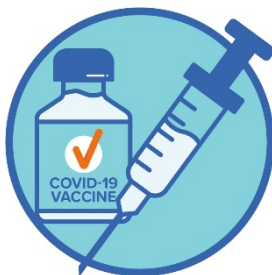


- helps people fight a virus if they come in contact with it
- can stop people from getting very sick from the virus.



The COVID-19 vaccine is a safe way to protect:

- you
- your family
- the community.



A **vaccination** is when you receive an injection of the vaccine. This is done with a needle.



We want to give everyone in Australia a chance to have a COVID-19 vaccination.



But we can't give everyone the vaccination at the same time.



We want as many people as possible to have the vaccination in 2021.

## Who will get the COVID-19 vaccination first?



Some people will have their COVID-19 vaccination first.



This includes people who are more at risk of:

- catching the virus
- getting very sick if they catch the virus.



We call these **priority groups**.



There is a team of medical experts called the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI).



The ATAGI decides who is in a priority group.

From June 2021, you are in a priority group if you are over 16 years old and you:



- are a person with disability who lives with at least one other person with disability



- are a person with serious health problems



- are a person who uses supports and services with other people with disability



- take part in the NDIS



- are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

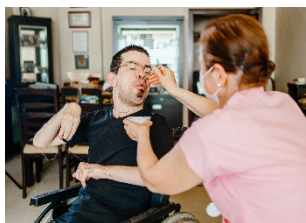


You are also in a priority group if you are aged 40 years or older.



If you are in one of these priority groups, you can book your COVID-19 vaccination now.

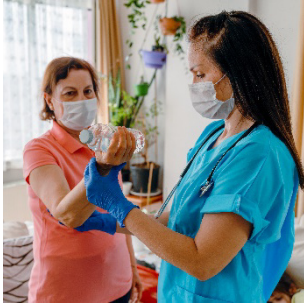
Other people who are also in a priority group now include:



- people who work in disability accommodation



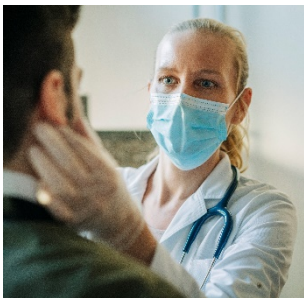
- people who live in aged care



- people who work in aged care



- people who care for an NDIS participant of any age



- doctors and health workers



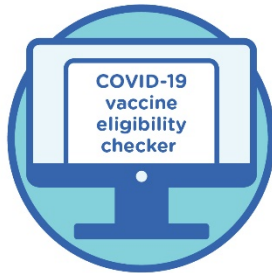
- **quarantine** workers.



If someone returns from overseas, the government asks them to stay in a hotel.

We call this quarantine.

To find out if you are in a priority group, you can:



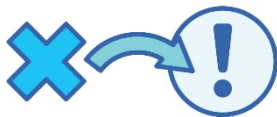
- use the COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker on the Healthdirect Australia website at [www.covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility](http://www.covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility)



- talk to your doctor



- talk to the people who support you.



Family members who are not carers of people with disability are not in a priority group.



But they might belong in a priority groups for another reason, such as:



- a health problem



- their job.

You can find out more about priority groups on the Department of Health website:



[www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/getting-vaccinated-for-covid-19/when-will-i-get-a-covid-19-vaccine](http://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/getting-vaccinated-for-covid-19/when-will-i-get-a-covid-19-vaccine)

## More information



You can call the Disability Gateway on **1800 643 787**.

They are open from 8 am to 8 pm, Monday to Friday.



You can visit the Department of Health website at [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) for more information about the vaccine.



You can call the National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccine Helpline on **1800 020 080**.



If you need information in a language other than English, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450**.



If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, you can call the National Relay Service on **133 677**.



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