

COVID-19 vaccine

There is a limited supply of COVID-19 vaccines in Australia and globally. This means, people who have the highest risk of severe COVID-19 and/or exposure to the virus will receive the vaccine first. Other people will be vaccinated over time. Find out who will be prioritised for vaccination by visiting www.health.gov.au/covid19-vaccines.

The COVID-19 vaccine is free, and you can choose whether to have it or not.

To check your eligibility, you can go to: <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility>

You should not attend a COVID-19 vaccination appointment if you:

- are unwell with fever, cough, runny nose or other cold or flu like symptoms.
- are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- have tested positive with COVID-19 and you are in isolation.
- are a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

If you fall into any of the above categories, you may need to reschedule your appointment for vaccination. COVID-19 vaccines are not effective at treating COVID-19.

If you have had another vaccine in the 14 days before your COVID-19 vaccine appointment, please let us know you will need to reschedule your appointment.

You are not required to test for COVID-19 before vaccination if you do not have a fever or any respiratory symptoms.

Vaccination

You will be receiving the Astra Zeneca vaccine by injection into your upper arm muscle.

You will need two doses of this vaccine 12 weeks apart, ideally you will receive both doses at the same Medical Centre.

Optimal protection against COVID-19 will not occur until about one to two weeks after your second dose.

You should bring the following to your COVID-19 vaccination appointment:

- Photo ID
- Medicare card
- Employee ID if you are getting a COVID-19 vaccine because of your occupation.
- Information about any reactions you have had to any vaccine in the past.
- If you are taking any anticoagulants (blood thinners) please advise the name of the medication and most recent INR results if applicable
- Information about any previous COVID-19 vaccine received (vaccine brand and date of vaccination)
- Signed consent form – Please get your copy from the reception prior to your appointment – OR you can download a copy from our website. If you have any questions or concerns about getting the COVID-19 vaccine make an appointment with your GP prior to booking your vaccine appointment.
- **If you are a new patient, to the practice:**
 1. we request you bring a copy of your health summary from your usual GP.
 2. Proof of occupation if you are a health care worker, critical worker (defence, police, emergency services, fire and meat processing) eg: ID from your workplace.
 3. Please make sure the new patient form is filled out prior to your appointment.

IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL YOUR APPOINTMENT OR ARE FEELING UNWELL PLEASE LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS THE COVID-19 VACCINE SUPPLY IS LIMITED AND A DOSE HAS BEEN ALLOCATED TO YOU.

Please ensure you arrive on time for your vaccination appointment.

After you receive your vaccination:

- *You will be given a sticker with the vaccination time.*
- *You will be given a document with the vaccination received.*
- *You will be asked to make your appointment for your second dose (12 weeks later)*
- *You will have to wait 15 minutes in the waiting room before you leave the practice return to the front desk and hand in your sticker. (please alert any of our staff members if you are feeling unwell.*