

COVID-19 vaccine: Frequently asked questions for people with disabilities

October 2021

Choice and consent

Do I have to get a vaccine?	Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 will help keep you, your loved ones and community safe. Vaccination is voluntary.
Do I need to give consent to receive my vaccine?	Yes, consent is required before you can receive a vaccine. View Australian Government information on vaccines including consent, including an easy read fact sheet on giving your consent.

Support for people with disabilities

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I'm worried the vaccination centre won't accommodate my needs.	You can visit any state-run vaccination clinic to get a vaccination. There is no need to book.
	You can choose to get a COVID-19 vaccination at a drive-through vaccination centre, a vaccination centre with enhanced accessibility or your doctor or pharmacist.
	View the <u>vaccination centres</u> page for more information on these sites. Read more about <u>how to book</u> with your local doctor or pharmacist.
	A disability liaison officer can also help book your vaccine appointment. View more <u>vaccine information or people with a disability</u> .
I don't have a Medicare card.	You don't need a Medicare card to get vaccinated. Use the clinic finder to find the right COVID-19 vaccination venue for you.
	You do not need an <u>Individual Healthcare Identifier</u> or a Medicare card to get a COVID-19 vaccine at a <u>vaccination centre</u> .
	 If you do not have a Medicare card, you can apply for an Individual Healthcare Identifier (IHI). Individual Healthcare Identifiers are used to match the correct
	record to the person being treated - no clinical information is linked to the identifier.
	Applying for an Individual Healthcare Identifier and being vaccinated for COVID-19 will not impact your visa status or your eligibility for
	government payments.

Eligibility and consent

Who is eligible to get	Everybody aged 12 years and over can get vaccinated.
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vaccinated?	It is not mandatory to get vaccinated. By getting vaccinated, you are helping protect yourself, your family and our whole community.
1 '	parent or guardian may attend with the young person).
	 A young person may attend a vaccination centre with a consent form signed by a parent or guardian. Click here to download and print the form. A young person may provide their own consent, if a senior and
	experienced immuniser assesses that they are able to make this decision.

Vaccine safety

Is the vaccine safe for children?	The Pfizer vaccine has been approved and is safe for children aged 12 years and over.
conducted to ensure	Yes, the Therapeutic Goods Association (TGA) has carefully evaluated the evidence of the safety and effectiveness of the Pfizer vaccine for young people. This evidence includes clinical studies with young people aged 12 – 15 years. An independent expert advisory committee on vaccines also reviewed the evidence and supported the approval of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for young people. The TGA also monitors evidence of vaccine use in other countries where the Pfizer vaccine is being provided to young people. You can read more about the approval process vaccines go through before they can be used in Australia by visiting the TGA website.
Can I receive a COVID- 19 vaccine if I am pregnant?	Yes, you can get a COVID-19 vaccination at any stage of pregnancy. If you are pregnant, talk to your doctor before you get a COVID-19 vaccine. You do not need to stop breastfeeding after vaccination. People who are trying to become pregnant do not need to delay vaccination or avoid becoming pregnant after vaccination.