



Australian Government

COVID-19
VACCINATION

COVID-19 vaccines for children aged 5 to 11 years

Children aged 5 to 11 are eligible for COVID-19 vaccination.

Australia's leading scientists and experts from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) have approved two vaccines for children in Australia.

The Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine and Spikevax (Moderna) vaccine is approved for children aged 5 years and older.

Children aged 5 to 11 years will receive a smaller dose of the vaccine than people aged 12 and older. If a child turns 12 years of age in between their 2 doses, they can receive the larger dose for the second vaccination. Children aged 5 to 11 years should get two doses of the vaccine, eight weeks apart.

Although most children and young people who get COVID-19 have a mild illness, some can still get very sick. Children can also transmit the virus to others, including older family members who are at a higher risk of getting very sick. Ensuring children are up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations reduces these risks.

Children who are severely immunocompromised are recommended to receive a third primary dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, 2 months after their second dose. Children who are severely immunocompromised are at a much higher risk of getting very sick and dying from COVID-19. A booster dose increases their protection.

If children have been infected with COVID-19, it is recommended that they wait 6 months before receiving their next COVID-19 vaccine dose. Waiting 6 months between infection and vaccination is likely to provide more protection from the virus for longer.

Children are able to receive vaccinations at doctors' clinics, Aboriginal health services and participating pharmacies. It is safe for children to receive their COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as other vaccines, such as the flu vaccine.



Which vaccines can children 5 years and older receive?

Children aged 5 years and older may now receive either the Moderna or PfizerCOVID-19 vaccine.

Children aged 5 years and older are recommended to have 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, given 8 weeks apart. Some children with severe immunocompromise may need 3 doses.

It is preferred that children aged 5 years and over have the same brand of vaccines for both doses.

What vaccines can children under 5 years of age receive?

The COVID-19 vaccine is recommended for some children aged 6 months to under 5 years who have an increased risk of getting very sick from COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccination will help reduce this risk.

Eligible children aged 6 months to under 5 years are recommended to have 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, given 8 weeks apart. Some children with severe immunocompromise may need 3 doses. Children in this age range are able to receive the Moderna vaccine.

Children aged 6 months to under 5 years who are not listed in the eligible categories are at a low risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19. They are **not** recommended to receive a COVID-19 vaccine at this time.

More information

For more information about vaccinations for children aged 6 months to under 5 years [visit the Department of Health and Aged Care website](#), or call the National Coronavirus Helpline on 1800 020 080.

Get the facts: have a yarn to your local health care worker about an appointment today, or book now using the [COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder](#).