



# What happens when you get a COVID-19 vaccine



This is an info sheet about what happens when you get the COVID-19 vaccine.



A **vaccine** is a medicine that can help stop you and others from getting sick.



This info sheet will tell you about what happens when you get a vaccine.



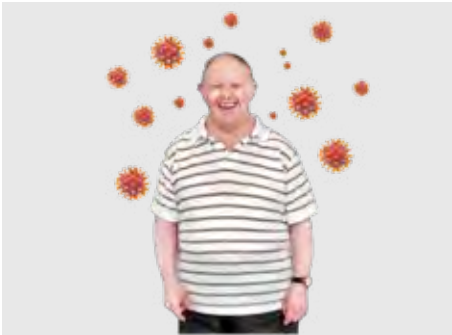
You can ask someone for help to read this info sheet.



This could be a

- Family member
- Friend
- Support worker.

# About the COVID-19 vaccine



The COVID-19 vaccine helps stop you and others getting very sick from COVID-19.



To give you the COVID-19 vaccine a doctor or nurse will quickly put a needle into your arm.

This is called an **injection**.



When you get the COVID-19 vaccine it is called a **vaccination**.



You can get the COVID-19 vaccine more than 1 time.

# What happens when you get the COVID-19 vaccine?



You can ask someone you trust to come with you when you get your COVID-19 vaccine.



This might be a

- Family member
- Friend
- Support worker.



The person that gives you the COVID-19 vaccine will ask you some questions.



They will also ask you to give your **consent** to get the vaccine.



**Consent** means you say yes to getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

## Questions they will ask



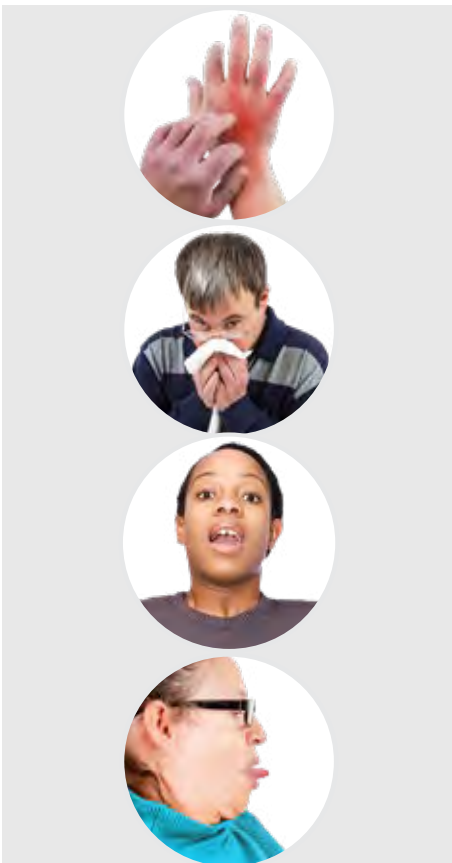
These are the questions the person giving the vaccine will ask.

## Allergies



They will ask if you have any **allergies**.

**Allergies** are when you get sick from things like food or medicine.



You can have mild or bad allergies.

When you have an allergic reaction you might

- Get an itchy rash
- Have a runny nose
- Have trouble breathing
- Get a swollen tongue or lips.



They will ask if you have **anaphylaxis**.

**Anaphylaxis** is a very bad allergic reaction.



They will ask if you use an **EpiPen**.

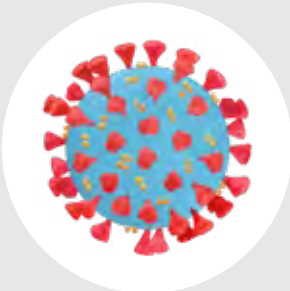


You use an **EpiPen** to put a medicine in your body when you have had a strong allergic reaction.

## Other questions they will ask



- Have you had a bad reaction to a vaccine before?



- Have you had COVID-19 before?



- Do you have a **bleeding disorder**?

A **bleeding disorder** is a health issue with your blood.

It makes it hard for your body to stop bleeding when you hurt yourself.



- Do you take any medicine to make your blood thin?



- Are you **immunocompromised**?

**Immunocompromised** means that it is harder for your body to not get sick.



They will ask if you take any medications.



They will ask if you

- Are pregnant
- Think you might be pregnant
- Are trying to get **pregnant**.



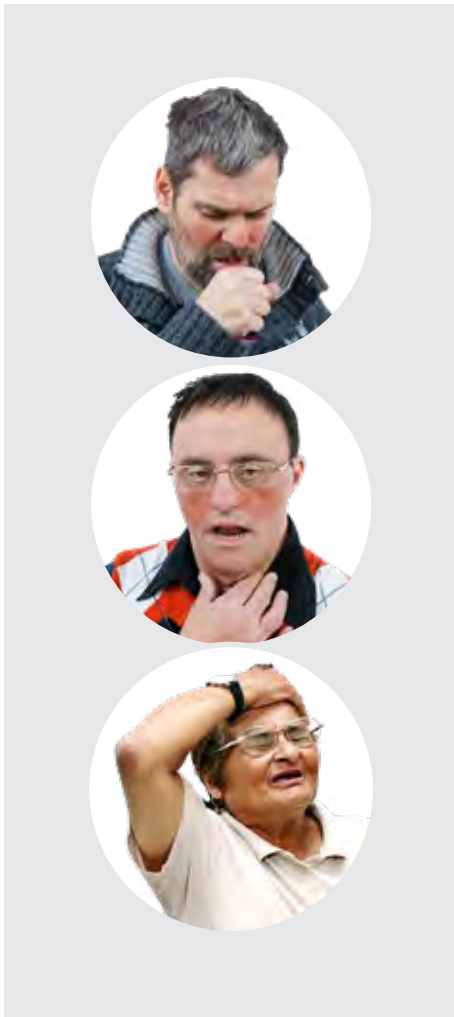
**Pregnant** means that you are having a baby.



They will ask if you are **breastfeeding**.

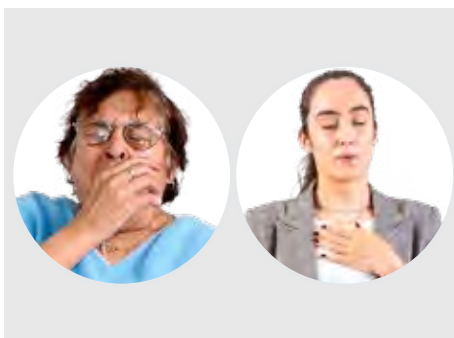
**Breastfeeding** means that you are feeding your baby with milk from your breasts.





They will ask if you have you been sick with things like a

- Cough
- Sore throat
- Fever.



They will ask if you

- Feel tired
- Find it hard to breathe.

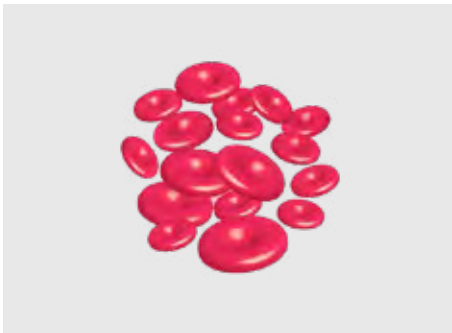


They will ask if you had a COVID-19 vaccine before.





They will also ask you which COVID-19 vaccine you had.



They will ask if you are at risk to get **blood clots**.



**Blood clots** happen when your blood gets thick.

# Information they need from you



You need to give some information about you to the person that does your COVID-19 vaccine.



They need this information so that they know

- Who had the COVID-19 vaccine
- How many doses they had.

This is the information they need



- Your name



- Your Medicare card number



- Your date of birth



- Your address where you live



- Your phone number



- Your email address.



They will ask what is your **gender**.

**Gender** means who you feel you are as a person.

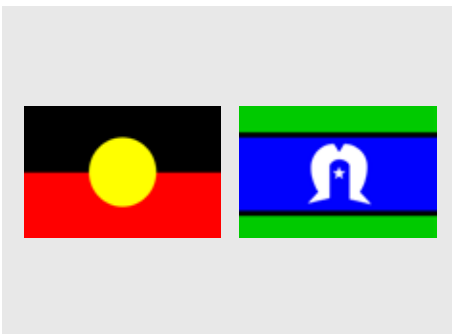


Some people feel as women and some as men.



Some people feel as both or none of them.

This is called **non binary**.



They will also ask if you are Aboriginal and Torres Strait or South Sea Islander.

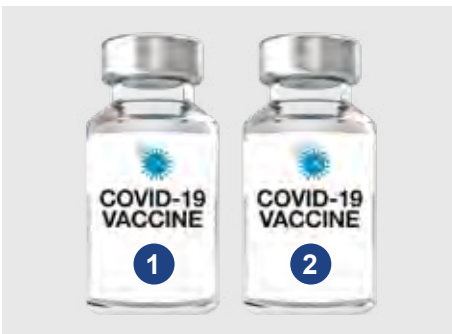
# What happens after you get the COVID-19 vaccine



After you get your COVID-19 vaccine they will tell you when you need to get the next dose.



**Dose** means how much of the vaccine you need to get every time.



You should get at least 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine for it to work well.



Some people will need 3 doses.

These doses are called your **primary course**.



There are different types of the COVID-19 vaccine.

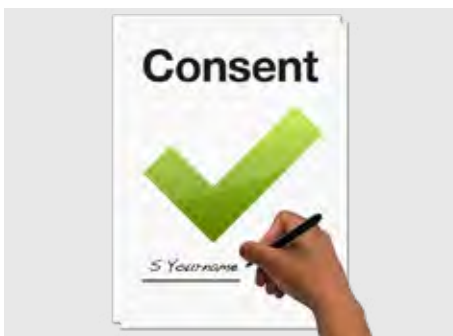


You need to have the same vaccine for all the doses you have for your primary course.



Most people will also need a **booster dose**.

**Booster dose** means you get an extra dose of COVID-19 vaccine.



You will need to give your consent every time you go to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

## More information



For more information about COVID-19

- Call the **Disability Gateway**

The number is **1800 643 787**

The website is

**[www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au)**



- Call the **National Coronavirus Helpline**

The number is **1800 020 080**.

Choose number 5 for information in English.

Choose number 8 for free information in other languages.



- Go to the **Department of Health and Aged Care** website

The website is **[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)**





You can call the **Translating and Interpreting Service** for information in your language.

The number is **131 450**.



You can call the **National Relay Service** if you

- Are deaf



- Find it hard to hear people over the phone.



The number is **1800 555 660**.

Council for Intellectual Disability made this document Easy Read. **CID** for short.

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You can contact CID at **[business@cid.org.au](mailto:business@cid.org.au)**.