



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



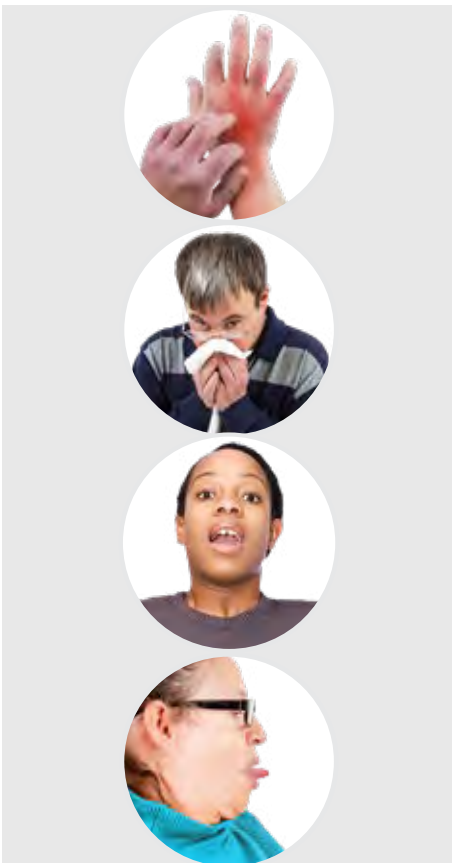
These are the questions the person giving the vaccine will ask.

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**.

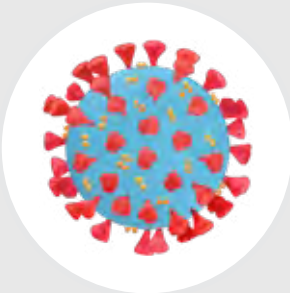


You use an **EpiPen** to put a medicine in your body when you have had a strong allergic reaction.

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**.

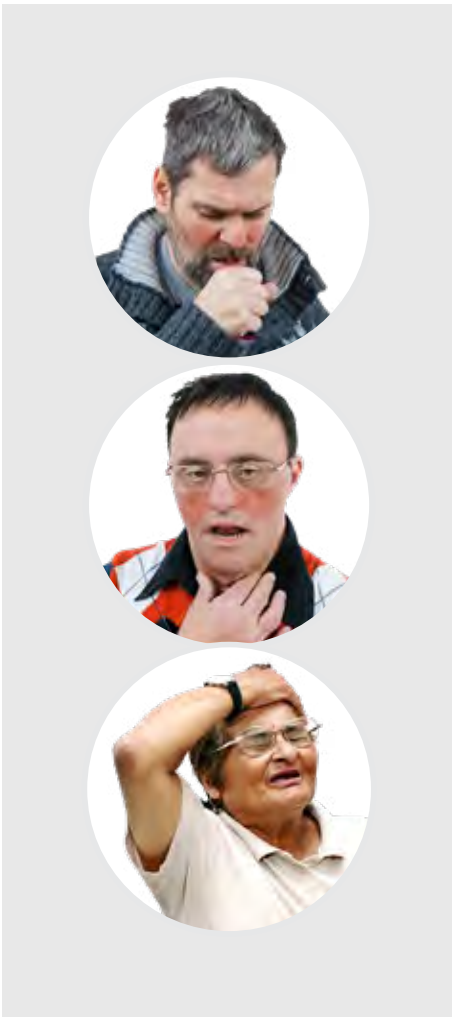


Pregnant means that you are having a baby.



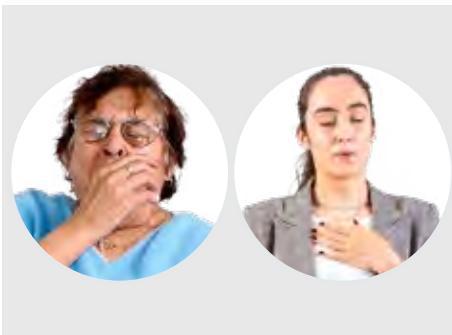
They will ask if you are **breastfeeding**.

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

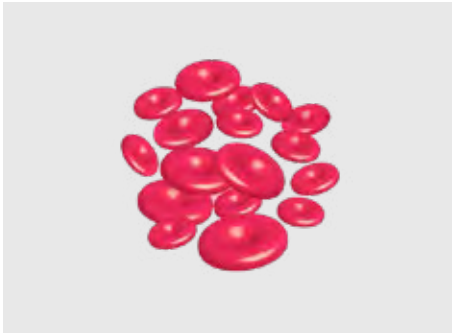
- Feel tired
- Find it hard to breathe.



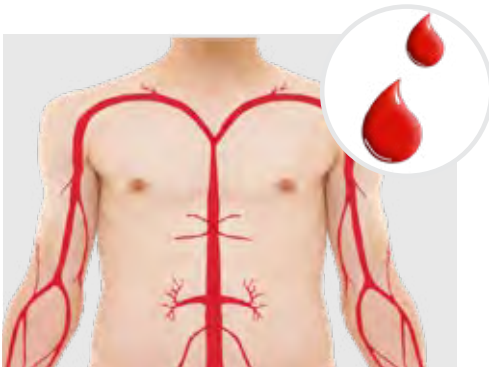
They will ask if you had a COVID-19 vaccine before.



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.

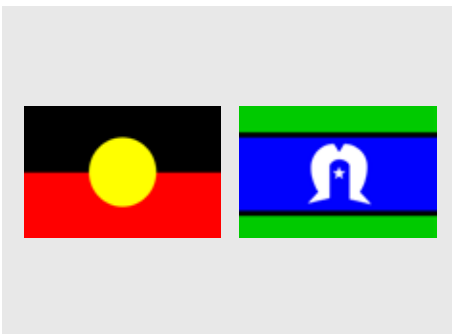


Some people feel as women and some as men.



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.

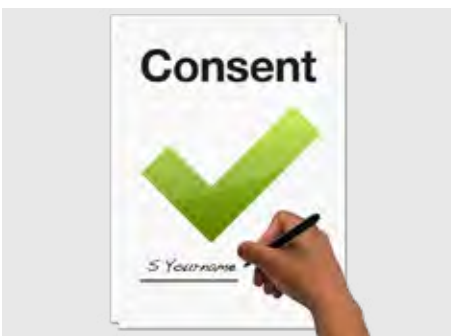


You need to have the same vaccine for all the doses you have for your primary course.



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

- 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**



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.

You need to ask CID if you want to use any pictures in this document.

You can contact CID at **business@cid.org.au**.