
**Advisory Committee on the Health Emergency Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19) for
People with Disability
Meeting No. 14: 18 January 2021
Key Outcomes**

The Department of Health (the Department) updated members of the Advisory Committee on the COVID-19 vaccine implementation strategy:

- The Australian Government released Australia's COVID-19 vaccine national rollout strategy on 7 January 2021. This can be accessed online at: www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/australias-covid-19-vaccine-national-roll-out-strategy.
- Many people with disability will be eligible to receive the vaccine in the early phases of the vaccine rollout.
- To inform the vaccine rollout for people with disability, the Department is consulting with:
 - the Department of Social Services,
 - the National Disability Insurance Agency,
 - the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Quality and Safeguards Commission,
 - state and territory governments, and
 - other stakeholders in the disability sector.

The Department gave an overview on how it will communicate the COVID-19 vaccine for people with disability. The Department will provide information in accessible formats through existing channels and networks. This will ensure people with disability, their families, carers and support workers have accurate, timely and appropriate information about the vaccine.

The Advisory Committee raised a range of issues for consideration, including:

- Clearly explaining priority groups. This outlined which phase that people with disability, disability support workers, carers and families are eligible to receive the vaccine.
- What evidence will be required to prove eligibility for vaccination in phase one.
- Communicating effectively to people with disability and their supporters, particularly:
 - people with disability who are not NDIS participants,
 - non-registered disability support workers, and
 - informal carers.
- Disability-specific factors that contribute to the risk of contracting or transmitting the virus.
- The vaccine communication approach for people with disability.
- Training and upskilling for vaccine providers.

NEXT STEPS

- The Department will continue to consult with the Advisory Committee to inform the vaccine rollout for people with disability and the disability support sector.
- The COVID-19 Vaccine Communications Team will seek feedback from the Advisory Committee on draft communications materials.