



Australian Government



Site readiness requirements for COVID-19 vaccination at residential disability accommodation sites

Updated November 2021

The Australian Government has developed the following site readiness requirements for COVID-19 vaccination and booster doses at residential disability accommodation. This is for sites where two or more people with disability live and their workers.

The Government has developed these requirements in consultation with expert advice from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI).

To support disability providers to meet these requirements, examples of how providers can implement ATAGI advice at disability residential accommodation are in the following table. This may look different at each accommodation depending on the site configuration and space available.

COVID-19 vaccination sites must comply with the requirements outlined below prior to delivery of vaccine doses.

ATAGI advice		Examples	Yes / No
1.1	Have adequate space for individuals waiting to be vaccinated or receive their booster dose that is not congested, observes physical distancing requirements and is sheltered from the weather.	This could be a dining or living space, or people may choose to wait in their own bedrooms if appropriate. If the configuration is open plan, you may consider having people waiting for the vaccine in one part of the room and the vaccination in another part of the room.	
1.2	Have a private space for consultation with individuals and vaccinator (including obtaining informed consent, answering questions and assessment of any conditions that may prevent vaccination or require further assessment and administration of vaccine). This could be the same space as where the vaccine is administered.	This could be the lounge room or dining room or an office if there is one. The individual should be able to discuss their medical needs without everyone overhearing. This could be the same space as 1.1.	
1.3	Have a dedicated area, separate from areas that supply unrelated clinical or other services at the same time, where vaccines from multi-dose vials may be drawn up, labelled, and prepared for administration, dependent on the clinical process at the time.	Vaccine teams will bring laptops and need space to put their equipment including the vaccines that will be in large boxes. This could be a dining room table, kitchen bench or a foldout table set up for this purpose. There is a reasonable amount of equipment needed so this space needs to be large enough for the equipment.	
1.4	Have a dedicated, clean, well-lit space for administration of the vaccine to individuals, including a desk and chairs for individuals and vaccinator(s).	Depending on the layout of the accommodation, people having the vaccine may be in the lounge room or dining room. If needed, they may also have the vaccine in their individual bedrooms. If the configuration is open plan, this could be a space in another part a large room.	
1.5	Have adequate space for individuals to wait and be observed post-vaccination, separate from the area for administering the vaccine that observes physical distancing requirements (note this may be the same as the waiting area however will still require sufficient physical distancing.)	This could be the same space as 1.1. It is important to know who has been vaccinated so vaccinators can observe them for any post vaccination symptoms. A small sticker may be appropriate to identify who has had the vaccine.	
1.6	Have safe, risk-free and direct access to areas where the vaccine will be given to allow movement of immunisation provider staff between areas while minimising the risk of workplace incidents (e.g., moving doses from preparation area to patient administration area, accessing refrigerators or cool boxes, etc.).	When setting up the space/s, it is important that the vaccinators can move between people. Vaccinators should also have easy access to the area where the vaccinations will be (see 1.2). This could be occurring in the same room, there should be an easy way for people to move around to receive the vaccine.	
1.7	Adequate handwashing facilities for immunisation provider staff, and antimicrobial hand sanitisers available. Have visual reminders and cues in place to reduce the risk of errors.	Vaccine teams may bring hand sanitisers and other COVIDSafe equipment, but it is good for disability providers to also have this available.	
1.8	Have antimicrobial /disinfectant wipes to clean stations between individuals.	Vaccine teams may bring this to support COVIDSafe practices, but it is good for disability providers to also have this available.	