Keep your disability workforce up to date by circulating this alert widely in your organisation

# Disability provider alert

3 June 2022

## ATAGI expands recommendation for winter COVID-19 booster

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has expanded its recommendations for a winter vaccination dose to include all people aged over 16 with disability.

This builds on the ATAGI recommendation on [25 March 2022](https://www.health.gov.au/news/atagi-update-following-weekly-covid-19-meeting-25-may-2022) for an additional winter booster dose (fourth dose) for most people in high-risk groups.

Read more about ATAGI’s expanded advice [here](https://www.health.gov.au/news/atagi-update-following-weekly-covid-19-meeting-25-may-2022)

## Vaccination Access Program Survey

We want to ensure that people continue to have access to the COVID vaccination where they choose to, so we are asking Disability Service Providers to complete this [short survey](https://healthau.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8vKdT8ONoGVRMCa) to inform us about uptake and ongoing needs for vaccination.

You might have already received this link by email, but if not, please complete it now to help us support winter dose rollout.

Should you have any questions, please contact DisabilityCovidVaccineDelivery@health.gov.au Updated COVID-19 emergency preparedness guide for people with disability

Information about COVID-19 treatments, transmission, COVID-19 and flu vaccination is now available in updated COVID-19 emergency preparedness guides for people with disability.

The **COVID-19 Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness (PCEP) Guides** are designed to help people with disability plan for a COVID-19 emergency tailored to their unique support needs.

The guides are available in Easy Read and Standard English formats from the [Collaborating 4 Inclusion](https://collaborating4inclusion.org/covid-19-person-centred-emergency-preparedness/) website.

## Co-administration of COVID-19 Winter dose and annual flu vaccination

This year, [it’s even more important to get the flu vaccine](https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2022/04/help-stop-the-flu-in-2022-this-year-it-s-even-more-important-to-get-the-flu-vaccine-fact-sheet.pdf).

COVID-19 Winter doses can be administered at the same time as the annual flu vaccination. Co-administration of COVID-19 Winter doses and influenza vaccines is clinically safe - but you should not delay one while waiting for the other.

Flu vaccinations are available through all usual pathways including GPs and pharmacies.

## Reminder: Easy Read resources available on the Department of Health website

We have a range of Easy Read resources available on our website. There are a variety of topics about the vaccine, getting the vaccine, side effects and other information. These are available on our [disability landing page](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/covid-19-vaccination-easy-read-resources?utm_source=health.gov.au&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=digital_transformation&utm_content=covid-19-vaccination-easy-read-resources) on the Department of Health website.

You can also find a [full list of Easy Read and plain English resources](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-easy-read-resources) related to COVID-19, including emergency planning, testing and preventing the spread of COVID-19.

## Assistance for people with disability and their families/friends/providers

Disability Gateway on **1800 643 787** -open from 8 am to 8 pm, Monday to Friday.

Department of Health website at[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccine Helpline on **1800 020 080** (people with disability, their families and carers should select Option 5, disability workers should select Option 4).

For information in a language other than English, call the National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccine Helpline on **1800 020 080** and press option 8. This is a free service.

The Translating and Interpreting Service is also available on **131 450**.

For people who are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, call the National Relay Service on **133 677**.

## Follow us on Facebook

Don't miss the latest news and updates about COVID-19 and other health matters – follow [the Department of Health on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/healthgovau).