



Australian Government

COVID-19 VACCINATION

COVID-19 vaccination information for senior Australians – are you up to date?

Information current as at 7 July 2022

Staying up to date with the recommended COVID-19 vaccinations will continue to protect you from the risks of serious illness, hospitalisation or death from COVID-19.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommends all individuals aged 16 years and over receive a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose to maintain an 'up-to-date' status.

You are eligible to receive your initial booster dose if you received your second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine 3 or more months ago.

ATAGI also recommends an [additional COVID-19 winter booster](#) for people considered at most risk from the impacts of COVID-19, including people aged 50 years and older.

You can receive your COVID-19 Winter dose from 3 months after:

- your initial booster dose, or
- a confirmed COVID-19 infection, if infection occurred since the person's first COVID-19 booster dose

If you have not yet received your primary course, initial booster dose or Winter dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, please consider booking in your appointment as soon as possible.

Protection from vaccinations can wane over time. The recommended COVID-19 Winter dose will bolster your immunity for optimal protection over the winter season.

COVID-19 vaccinations are free, safe and effective.

Book your vaccination appointment through the COVID-19 [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#) at:

- **Primary care clinics** – including GPs, pharmacies, or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Services.
- Care recipients with **mobility challenges** are encouraged to contact their GP or pharmacist to discuss options for a home visit to receive a vaccination.

Call the dedicated **COVID-19 Helpline on 1800 020 080 (select option 2)** for any questions about vaccination and for assistance on how to book an appointment.

For interpreting services please call **131450**.

Is a COVID-19 Winter vaccine dose the same as a booster dose?

No. A COVID-19 Winter vaccine dose is **in addition** to the recommended booster dose (which can be 3 or more months after completing a primary course of a COVID-19 vaccine).

ATAGI recommends the additional COVID-19 Winter vaccine dose to people who have received their initial booster dose and who are particularly vulnerable to severe illness from COVID-19:

- people aged 50 years and older
- people who are severely immunocompromised
- residents of aged care and disability facilities
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 50 years and older
- People aged 16 -64 years:
 - who have [a medical condition](#) that increases the risk of severe COVID-19 illness
 - living with a disability with significant or complex health needs or multiple comorbidities which increase risk of poor outcome from COVID-19.

Can I get a COVID-19 and flu vaccination at the same time?

ATAGI advises it is safe to get your COVID-19 Winter dose and flu vaccination together.

If you normally get your annual flu vaccination through a primary care provider, such as a GP or pharmacy, you can ask them if they can give you both vaccinations at the same appointment.

If you are not yet eligible for your additional COVID-19 Winter dose, you can get your flu vaccine ahead of the COVID-19 Winter dose.

If I've recently had COVID-19, can I still get the Winter dose?

The additional Winter dose can be given from 3 months or longer after the person has received their first booster dose, or from 3 months after a confirmed COVID-19 infection if your infection occurred after you received the first COVID-19 booster dose.

I am severely immunocompromised and have received three doses and a booster. Should I still get the Winter vaccine dose?

Yes, it is recommended. Immunocompromised people who have received three primary doses and a booster of a COVID-19 vaccine can receive a Winter vaccine dose from 3 months after the initial booster or from 3 months after a COVID-19 infection if this occurred since the person's first COVID-19 booster dose.

Where can I get more information?

For more information visit the Department of Health website section on the [COVID-19 vaccine program for aged care](#) or call the COVID-19 Helpline on **1800 020 080** (select option 2, or for interpreting services select option 8).