



Australian Government

COVID-19 VACCINATION

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

Disability provider alert

23 August 2022

Maintaining vaccination after COVID-19 infection

Completing your COVID-19 vaccination schedule is important even if you have had COVID-19. This will support a better immune response and longer protection from re-infection. Keeping up the vaccinations will also help stop the spread and protect those close to you.

Everyone should wait 3 months between a COVID-19 infection and their next recommended vaccine dose. Information about vaccination after COVID-19 infection can be found [here](#).

Vaccination for children aged 6 months to under 5 years

ATAGI recommends COVID-19 vaccination for children aged 6 months to under 5 years with:

- **severe immunocompromise**
- **disability, and**
- **those who have complex and/or multiple health conditions which increase the risk of severe COVID-19.**

[ATAGI recommendations on COVID-19 vaccine use in children aged 6 months to \(health.gov.au\)](https://www.health.gov.au)

The recommendation is for 2 primary doses, except for those children with severe immunocompromise who will require 3 primary doses. The recommended interval between each dose is 8 weeks.

The COVID-19 Vaccination Program for children aged 6 months to under 5 years will commence on 5 September 2022. Further details on the program to come.

A [tip sheet](#) is available to support parents and carers speaking to children about COVID-19 vaccination.

Oral antiviral treatment plan

People who are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 are eligible for oral antiviral treatments, taken as tablets or capsules at home. These work best as soon as a person tests positive. Eligible people can talk to their doctor about a treatment plan.

Targeted communications providing clear and accessible information on COVID-19 antiviral treatments are being rolled out to high priority groups such as:

- those living with a disability or in residential aged care,
- First Nations people,
- senior Australians and
- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds through translated resources.

Available information resources on oral treatments include a social media [case study](#) and [fact sheet](#). There is also now a [dedicated section](#) for people with disability on the oral treatments Health and Aged Care web page and an [Easy Read](#) resource.

Easy Vaccine Access (EVA)

Easy Vaccine access is a call-back service to help people book a COVID-19 vaccine. To access the service, message the EVA call-back service on 0481 611 382. A trained operator from the National Coronavirus Helpline will call at a scheduled time to help book the COVID-19 vaccination. Learn more [here](#).

Update on Commonwealth Vaccination In-Reach Program

Commonwealth vaccination providers **are contacting residential disability service providers** to offer in-reach for COVID-19 vaccination. If residents are due for their next dose, please book in as soon as possible.

To get more support you can also [contact us](#).

Support for people with disability, providers, carers and families

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

Department of Health and Aged Care website at www.health.gov.au

National Coronavirus and COVID-19 Vaccine Helpline on **1800 020 080**. People with disability, their families and carers should choose Option 5, disability workers should choose 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 and Aged Care on Facebook](#).