



ROLL UP FOR A SAFE, EFFECTIVE VACCINE.

With the arrival of effective vaccines proven safe around the world, we can all play our part to protect ourselves, our loved ones and SA.

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SA Health

South Australians have done a great job helping stop the spread of COVID-19. And with the arrival of vaccines that have proven safe and effective around the world, we can all play our part in protecting ourselves, our loved ones and SA.

Our aim is to give every eligible South Australian the opportunity to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in 2021.

Find out when it's your turn, and roll up to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

Why should I get vaccinated?

Getting vaccinated is safe, free and effective.

COVID-19 is a very serious disease. It can cause ongoing health problems and can be deadly, even in people who were young and healthy before contracting the disease.

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and your family against COVID-19.

How do I know the vaccines are safe?

The COVID-19 vaccines have met the extremely high safety standards set by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA).

The TGA approves all vaccines, prescription medicines and medical devices used in Australia. This means the COVID-19 vaccines have been thoroughly assessed and found to be as safe as any other vaccine or medicine you take.

The vaccines have been through rigorous clinical trials where they were tested on tens of thousands of people. Now, hundreds of millions of people across the world have received a COVID-19 vaccine.



Can the vaccines give me COVID-19?

No, the vaccines do not use the live or whole virus that causes COVID-19, so there's no way you can catch COVID-19 from the vaccine.

What are the side effects?

Most vaccines cause a reaction in our bodies, which is actually a really good thing because it shows us that our immune system is kicking into gear.

The side effects of the COVID-19 vaccines are similar to the flu vaccine, and can include:

- pain and swelling at the injection site
- tiredness
- headache
- muscle and joint pain
- chills
- fever.

If you experience side effects after you've had the vaccine and you're worried about them, you should speak to your doctor.

Do I have to get two shots?

Yes, the vaccines approved for use in Australia require two doses.

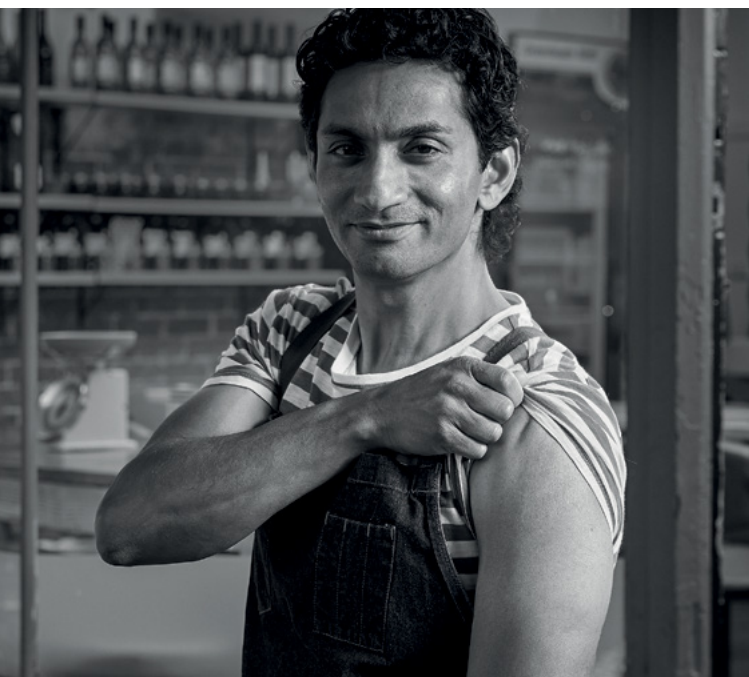
The length of time between your two doses will depend on which COVID-19 vaccine you receive. You will receive the same type of vaccine both times.

When you receive your first dose, you will be asked to make an appointment to get your second dose.

It is very likely that you will have less protection against COVID-19 if you do not receive your second dose when recommended.

Do I still need to practice hand hygiene and physical distancing even if I've been vaccinated?

It is very important that we continue practising good hygiene, physical distancing, and staying home if you are unwell, especially while we are working to vaccinate everyone in the community.



When will it be my turn to get vaccinated?

Our aim is to give every eligible South Australian the opportunity to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in 2021.

A phased approach has been designed to ensure the people who are most at risk of getting COVID-19, or of getting really sick if they get COVID-19, will be vaccinated first.

The phases are:

Phase 1a

- Frontline at-risk health workers
- Quarantine and airport workers
- Residential aged care and disability care staff and residents

Phase 1b

- Adults over 70 years
- All other health care workers
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults over 55 years
- Adults with an underlying medical condition, including those with a disability
- Critical and high risk workers including defence, police, fire, emergency services and meat processing

Phase 2a

- Adults over 50 years
- All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults
- Other critical and high risk workers.

Phase 2b

- Everyone else over 16 years

Phase 3

- People under 16 years, if approved by the TGA and recommended by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI).

How do I make sure I get the best vaccine for me?

The vaccines approved for use in Australia are suitable for vaccinating people within all phases of Australia's COVID-19 vaccination program.

With hundreds of millions of people vaccinated around the world with these vaccines, and real world data showing high effectiveness for both vaccines, we can be confident that they are both safe and provide good protection against serious illness and death from COVID-19.

What if I'm older?

Older adults are being prioritised for COVID-19 vaccination, as they are at increased risk of severe outcomes with COVID-19. Both vaccines are suitable for use in older people.

In rare instances, health professionals will consider the appropriateness of vaccination in older people if they are very frail, have severe pre-existing conditions or are at the end of their life.

Older people and their families, representatives and carers can talk to their GP or a health professional about the COVID-19 vaccines.



What if I'm pregnant?

The COVID-19 vaccines are safe if you're planning a pregnancy. You don't need to avoid becoming pregnant before or after vaccination.

If you're breastfeeding, you can receive the COVID-19 vaccine at any time. You don't need to stop breastfeeding before or after vaccination.

If you're already pregnant, vaccination is not routinely recommended, but you may wish to get vaccinated against COVID-19 if you are at a high risk of getting the virus or of getting very sick from the virus. If this is the case, speak to your GP or a health professional about the COVID-19 vaccines.

What if I'm immunocompromised?

Immunocompromised people are being prioritised to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, as they are at increased risk of severe outcomes with COVID-19.

The COVID-19 vaccines do not contain the live COVID-19 virus, which means they are safe for immunocompromised people.

Immunocompromised people should follow the advice from their doctor regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, including considering when to get the vaccine amongst any other treatments or medications.

What if I want to get the flu shot?

Getting vaccinated against the flu each year is important to protect yourself and your loved ones.

You can get the flu shot and be vaccinated against COVID-19 this year – you just need to allow two weeks between your vaccinations.

Got more questions?

A wide range of frequently asked questions and answers are available at covidvaccine.sa.gov.au or you can call the National Coronavirus Helpline on **1800 020 080.**

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