



17 September 2021

## Important COVID-19 vaccination information

### Who is eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine?

Everyone aged 16 years and over.

Young people aged 12-15 years are eligible if they:

- have an underlying medical condition.
- are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (see below)

### Vaccination for 12-15 year-olds

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommends that the following groups of children among those aged 12-15 years be prioritised for vaccination using the Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine:

- children with specified medical conditions that increase their risk of severe COVID-19 (including severe asthma, diabetes, obesity, cardiac and circulatory congenital anomalies, neuro developmental disorders, epilepsy, immuno-compromised and trisomy 21)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- children in remote communities, as part of broader community outreach vaccination programs that provide vaccines for all ages ( $\geq 12$  years).

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/atagi-statement-regarding-vaccination-of-adolescents-aged-12-15-years>

### Vaccination for vulnerable families

If you think you or the children in your care, are vulnerable to transmission of COVID-19 or developing serious disease, you can make reserved appointment by calling the Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398.

### Vaccination for pregnant women

Women may take the Pfizer vaccine at any stage of pregnancy or while breastfeeding as there are no safety concerns for the woman or her baby and vaccination helps protect against the risk of COVID-19 infection to protect both the woman and her baby.

### Reserved first dose appointments

To help people who are at higher risk of contracting or getting very sick from COVID-19 get vaccinated, appointments are being reserved at vaccination centres.

If you are vulnerable to transmission of COVID-19 or developing serious disease, you can currently access a reserved appointment.

To book a reserved appointment call the **Coronavirus Hotline** on **1800 675 398**.

Further information:

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/who-can-get-vaccinated#reserved-pfizer-vaccine-appointments>

### Remember:

- Nearly 5 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines have already been given
- Safety issues are rare
- Vaccine safety is constantly being monitored
- Talk to your GP or trusted health professional if you have personal questions
- Information about pandemic conditions may continue to change
- Media headlines may be misleading

