

COVID-19 infection and vaccination

How does COVID-19 affect me?

- COVID-19 can cause chest infection with fever, difficult breathing, muscle or body aches.
- It can also cause other underlying medical conditions to get worse.
- Older people are more likely to go to hospital if they get COVID-19.

How does the COVID-19 vaccine help?

- Getting the COVID-19 vaccine every 6 months means you are less likely to get complications or need to go to hospital if you get the infection.
- The vaccine may not stop you from getting COVID-19 BUT it will protect you from becoming very unwell.

When can I get the COVID-19 vaccine?

- 65 to 74 years old: Every 12 months, but you can consider a dose every 6 months. A dose every 6 months is most likely to benefit people living in residential aged care homes and those with underlying medical conditions
- 75 years and older: Every 6 months

What are common side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine?

- Pain, swelling or redness at the injection site, fever and muscle aches are common after the vaccine.
- These side effects go away after 2 to 3 days.
- Paracetamol can help with the pain, fever and muscle aches.

Why do I need a COVID-19 vaccine every 6 months?

- Protection from the vaccine gets less as time passes.

- For good protection, older people should have the vaccine every 6 months.

Where can I find out more information?

- Speak to your GP.
- Frequently asked questions on COVID-19 vaccines are also available (in English only) – please scan the QR code:

