



Australian Government

COVID-19 VACCINATION

COVID-19 vaccine

Easy Read fact sheet



The Australian Government wrote this fact sheet.
When you see the word 'we', it means the
Australian Government.



We wrote this fact sheet in an easy to read way.
We use pictures to explain some ideas.



You can ask for help to read
this fact sheet. A friend, family
member or support person
may be able to help you.



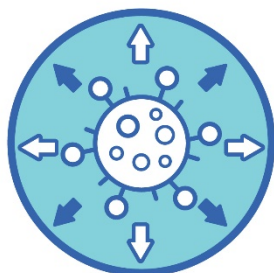
What is this fact sheet about?



Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a **virus** that has affected many people around the world.



A virus is an illness or disease that can spread from one person to another person.



COVID-19 can spread:

- easily
- quickly.



A COVID-19 **vaccine** will help us:

- stay safe
- live freely.



A vaccine is medicine that:

- helps people fight a virus if they come in contact with it
- can stop people from getting very sick from the virus.



The COVID-19 vaccine is a safe way to protect:

- you
- your family
- the community.



A **vaccination** is when you receive an injection of the vaccine. This is done with a needle.



The COVID-19 vaccination is free.



You can choose to have the vaccination.



But you don't have to have it if you don't want to.

Who will get the COVID-19 vaccine?

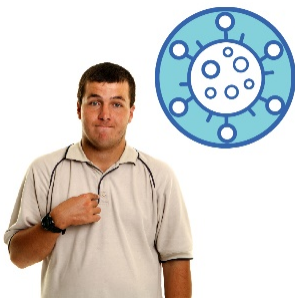


We want to offer every Australian the COVID-19 vaccination by the end of the year.



But we can't give everyone the vaccination at once.

Some people will have the COVID-19 vaccination first, including people who are more at risk of:



- catching the virus



- getting very sick if they catch the virus.

This includes:



- some people with disability who live in homes for people with disability



- some people with disability who also have other serious health problems.



Some people might not be able to have the vaccine because of a health problem they already have.



If you are not sure if you can have the vaccine, you should talk to your doctor first.

What can you do to stay safe?



The vaccine is one way to stay safe from COVID-19.



But some people might still get COVID-19, even after having a vaccination.



This means everyone still needs to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

You still must:



- stay at least 1.5 metres away from other people



- wash your hands often with soap and water



- use hand sanitiser when you can't use soap



- wear a mask if your state or territory says you need to



- stay home if you feel unwell.

More information



You can call the Disability Gateway on **1800 643 787**.

They are open from 8 am to 8 pm, Monday to Friday.



You can visit the Department of Health website at www.health.gov.au for more information about the vaccine.



You can call the National Coronavirus Helpline on **1800 020 080**.



If you need information in a language other than English, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450**.



If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, you can call the National Relay Service on **133 677**.



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