



COVID-19 VACCINATION WEBINAR

RACGP

Wednesday 31 March 2021

For the latest information visit
www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

COVID-19 Vaccination Program – Week 6



OFFICIAL

Priority groups 1b

1a priority group

Quarantine and border workers

Frontline health care worker that are most at risk of coming into contact with COVID-19

Public aged care residents and staff

Private aged care and disability care staff

Private aged care and disability care residents

health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/phase-1b

1b priority group

Health care workers (outside scope of 1a)

Police

Fire protection & other emergency

Correction & detention services

Meat/seafood processing

Household contacts of high risk 1a (Hotel Quarantine/ Ports of Entry/ Border workers)

Residents of high risk accommodation

Corrections clients

Transport (including public transport/commercial)

Adults younger than 70 with an underlying medical condition, including those with disability

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples aged over 55

Adults over 70

AstraZeneca safety

Upon reviewing data from tens of millions of people given the AstraZeneca vaccine, the ATAGI statement on the safety of the vaccine notes:

- No evidence that there is increase in the rates of general thromboembolic disorders after vaccination
- No cases of Cerebral Venous Sinus Thrombosis (CVST) associated with vaccination recorded in Australia to date
- No evidence of a risk of thrombotic disease after COVID-19 vaccination in people with clotting conditions
- ATAGI continues to recommend vaccination with either AstraZeneca or Pfizer

Pre vaccination support

Victorian Specialist Immunisation Services (VicSIS)

Referral to a VicSIS allergy clinic is required if a person has a history of:

- Immediate (within 4 hours) and generalised symptoms of a possible allergic reaction (e.g. urticaria/hives) to a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine
- Generalised allergic reaction (without anaphylaxis) to any component of the COVID-19 vaccine to be administered (e.g. PEG in the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine, or polysorbate 80 in the COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca)
- A prior history of anaphylaxis to previous vaccines and/or multiple drugs (injectable and/or oral) where ingredients such as PEG or polysorbate 80 may conceivably be the cause
- A known systemic mast cell activation disorder with raised mast cell tryptase that requires treatment

Pre vaccination support

Victorian Specialist Immunisation Services (VicSIS)

ATAGI has therefore released a statement on 25 March 2021 recommending deferral of vaccination with any COVID-19 vaccine for people who have a history of the below conditions:

- People with a confirmed medical history of CVST; and/or
- People with a confirmed medical history of heparin induced thrombocytopenia

Screening questions should be asked prior to vaccination and the above groups of people should defer vaccination and see their treating haematologist or neurologist. If they do not have a treating clinician then they should be referred to their nearest VicSIS clinic for further assessment.

Post vaccination support

Patients encouraged to report any possible adverse reactions:

- Respond to SMS
- Contact Surveillance of Adverse Events Following Vaccination In the Community (SAEFVIC) <https://www.aefican.org.au/Home/Info/VIC>

Patient or clinician support:

- Victorian Government Coronavirus hotline 1800 675 398 (option 3 for COVID-19 vaccines)

Murdoch Children's Research Institute key interim research findings

Among **health care workers** surveyed **intention to vaccinate** is highest among doctors (94%) and lowest amongst personal service workers (58%).

- It is similar between nurses, allied health professionals and other healthcare providers (76-79%).
- By work setting, intention to vaccinate is lowest in the aged and disability care facilities (65%).

Among **patients** surveyed, **intention to vaccinate** is very high in both groups:

- 90% among people ≥ 70 and 84% among people 18-69 with chronic conditions.
- In both patient groups, women and people from CALD backgrounds have lower intention to vaccinate.
- Intention is not obviously associated with level of educational attainment or employment status.