Mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations in GP settings

From 15 October 2021, in order to work in a healthcare setting, you must be able to provide evidence to your employer that you:

- are fully vaccinated with two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, or
- haven't received any doses but have a booking to receive your first dose by 29
 October 2021, or
- have a medical exemption evidenced by an authorised medical practitioner

From 26 November 2021, the requirement will increase to having had two doses or a medical exception

What does this mean as employer in GP setting?

From 15 October 2021, workers in this setting if they are not vaccinated nor have a valid exception, then the person may not enter the premises

The employer must take reasonable steps to prevent their entry

Further guidance for both employers and workers:

https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/information-workers-required-bevaccinated#healthcare-settings

Very limited reasons for authorised medical practitioners to provide a medical certificate for a temporary exemption

Medical exemption may be granted if a person is unable to be vaccinated because they:

- have a medical contraindication to COVID-19 vaccines, or
- have an acute medical illness, including COVID-19 infection for up to 6 months (or earlier if the medical practitioner specifies an earlier date).

Medical contraindication means one of the following contraindications to the administration of a COVID-19 vaccine:

- a. anaphylaxis after a previous dose;
- b. anaphylaxis to any component of the vaccine, including polysorbate or polyethylene glycol
- c. in relation to AstraZeneca:
 - i. history of capillary leak syndrome;
 - ii. or thrombosis with thrombocytopenia occurring after a previous dose;
- d. in relation to Pfizer or Moderna:
 - i. myocarditis or pericarditis attributed to a previous dose of either Pfizer or Moderna or the occurrence of any other serious adverse event that has:
 - ii. been attributed to a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by an experienced immunisation provider or medical specialist (and not attributed to any another identifiable cause); and been reported to State adverse event programs and/or the Therapeutic Goods Administration

Medical exemptions are determined by **ATAGI** clinical guidelines

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