

COVID-19 Vaccines: Booster doses

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OFFICIAL

About COVID-19 vaccine booster doses

COVID-19 booster doses are available to anyone aged 18 and over who had their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine more than six months ago.

A COVID-19 booster dose helps prevent waning immunity (loss of protection) against COVID-19.

A booster dose increases your protection against:

- infection with the virus that causes COVID-19
- severe disease
- dying from COVID-19.

You are eligible for a COVID-19 booster dose if you are 18 years and older, and had your second dose of your primary dose course of COVID-19 vaccination at least six months ago.

ATAGI is not currently recommending booster doses for:

- people aged 12 to 17 years
- people who are severely immunocompromised and have already had a third dose.

Booster doses are different from third primary doses, which are given to those who are immunosuppressed. View more information about booster doses and third primary doses on the [who can get vaccinated](#) page.

When to get a booster

You can book a booster dose if it has been six months or longer since your second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

The date you had your second dose of vaccine is on your COVID-19 digital certificate.

How to get a booster vaccine

You can get a COVID-19 booster dose from a Victorian vaccination centre, a GP or a participating pharmacist.

Call the Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398 to book a booster dose appointment.

Read more on how to book your vaccine appointment for a booster dose, including information on walk-in options.

Type of vaccine

Most people will receive the Pfizer vaccine as their booster dose. You can safely get this Pfizer booster dose regardless of which COVID-19 vaccine you received for your initial doses.

The Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca) vaccine can be used as a booster dose if you:

- can't have an mRNA vaccine for medical reasons
- had two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine previously.

Read the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation ([ATAGI](#)) [advice on the type of vaccine recommended for booster doses](#). If you're not sure which booster dose you're eligible for, talk to your GP.

Common, mild side effects following a booster dose are similar to the side effects following the first two doses.

See information about the [Pfizer vaccine and rare side effects](#).

Proof of vaccination

Your vaccination certificate is updated when you receive each dose of vaccine. This includes a third dose if you are severely immunocompromised, or your booster dose.

Booster doses will also appear on your Australian Immunisation Record.

Industries required to be vaccinated against COVID-19

Although you do not have to get a booster dose, everyone is encouraged to get a booster dose to help prevent waning immunity (loss of protection) against COVID-19.

Currently booster doses or third doses are not required to be disclosed to employers in industries where vaccination against COVID-19 is mandatory.