



STATEMENT ON COVID-19 VACCINE ADMINISTRATION IN 2025

It is important to read this statement in conjunction with the COVID-19 chapter of the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#), available at immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au

Key points for 2025

- Vaccination remains an important measure to protect those at risk of severe disease from COVID-19.
- All adults are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine every 12 months.
- Adults aged 75 years and over, including aged care residents, have the highest risk of severe COVID-19 including death, and are recommended to receive COVID-19 vaccines every 6 months.
- The current COVID-19 vaccines available for use are Comirnaty JN.1 and Omicron XBB.1.5-containing vaccines.
- COVID-19 vaccines can be co-administered with any other vaccine for people aged ≥ 5 years.
- All vaccinations must be recorded on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

ATAGI recommendations

A summary of advice is at **Table 1**. The Australian Immunisation Handbook [COVID-19 chapter](#) has further details, including recommendations for people who have never received a COVID-19 vaccine (a 'primary course').

COVID-19 recommendations are reviewed annually, or earlier if new evidence emerges or epidemiology changes.

ATAGI **recommends** a COVID-19 vaccine dose every **6 months** for:

- Adults aged ≥ 75 years.

ATAGI **recommends** a COVID-19 vaccine dose every **12 months** for:

- Adults aged 65—74 years
- Adults aged 18—64 years with severe immunocompromise.

These groups are also **eligible** for a dose every **6 months**, based on a benefit-risk assessment. A dose every six months is most likely to benefit people with medical risk conditions and/or those living in residential aged care homes.

The following groups are **eligible** to receive a COVID-19 vaccine every **12 months**, based on a benefit-risk assessment:

- All other adults aged 18—64 years
- Children and adolescents aged 5— <18 years with severe immunocompromise.

Vaccination reduces the risk of severe disease and death from COVID-19.

For those individuals **recommended** to receive COVID-19 vaccination, the risks of severe disease from COVID-19 are highest and the benefits of vaccination outweigh the risks for the defined population.

For those individuals **eligible** to receive COVID-19 vaccination, the risk of severe disease from COVID-19 is lower than the **recommended** groups, however individuals in this group can choose (are eligible) to receive a COVID-19 vaccination and are encouraged to discuss their individual circumstances with their healthcare provider.

Table 1: Timing of further COVID-19 vaccine doses by age group and risk status

Age	With severe immunocompromise [#]	Without severe immunocompromise [#]
≥ 75 years	Recommended every 6 months	Recommended every 6 months
65-74 years	Recommended every 12 months and are eligible for a dose every 6 months	Recommended every 12 months and are eligible for a dose every 6 months
18-64 years	Recommended every 12 months and are eligible for a dose every 6 months	Eligible for a dose every 12 months
5-17 years	Eligible for a dose every 12 months	Not recommended
<5 years	Not recommended	Not recommended

[#]See the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) for definitions and examples of severe immunocompromise

“Recommended”: benefits of vaccination outweigh the risks for the defined population.

“Eligible”: eligible for a free COVID-19 vaccine, and individuals encouraged to discuss their individual circumstances with their healthcare provider.

Table 2. COVID-19 vaccines registered and available for use in Australia in March 2025, by age groups

Vaccines	Comirnaty JN.1 vaccines			Comirnaty Omicron XBB.1.5 vaccines		
	6 month – <5 years formulation (yellow cap)	5 – <12 years formulation (light blue cap)	≥12 years formulation (dark grey cap)	6 month – <5 years formulation (maroon cap)	5 – <12 years formulation (light blue cap)	≥12 years formulation (dark grey cap)
Recommended age groups						
≥12 years			✓			✓
5 to 11 years		✓			✓	
6 months to <5 years	✓			✓		

Ticks indicate age at which a vaccine is registered and available. Blank cells indicate that the vaccine is not available for that age group.

COVID-19 vaccines funding

COVID-19 vaccinations are funded for all recommended and eligible individuals, including those without a Medicare card.