

**About COVID-19 vaccination**

People who have a COVID-19 vaccination have a much lower chance of getting sick from the disease called COVID-19.

The COVID-19 vaccination is free. You choose whether to have the vaccination or not.

To be vaccinated you will get a needle in your arm. You need to have the vaccination two times on different days. There are different brands of vaccine. You need to have the same brand of vaccine both times. The person giving you your vaccination will tell you when you need to have the second vaccination.

Medical experts have studied COVID-19 vaccines to make sure they are safe. Most side effects are mild and don’t last for long. As with any vaccine or medicine, there may be rare and/or unknown side effects.

You can tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects like a sore arm, headache, fever or any other side effect you are worried about. You may be contacted by SMS within the week after receiving the vaccine to see how you are feeling after vaccination.

Some people may still get COVID-19 after vaccination. So you must still follow public health precautions as required in your state or territory to stop the spread of COVID-19 including:

* Keep your distance – stay at least 1.5 metres away from other people
* Washing your hands often with soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
* Wear a mask, if your state or territory has advised that you should
* Stay home if you are unwell with cold or flu-like symptoms and
arrange to get a COVID-19 test.

Vaccination providers record all vaccinations on the Australian
Immunisation Register, as required by Australian law. You can view your
vaccination record online through your:

* Medicare account
* MyGov account
* MyHealthRecord account.