



COMIRNATY COVID-19 VACCINE (PFIZER) INFORMATION

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC

Kingscliff Health is pleased to advise that we are an approved COVID-19 vaccine provider.

Vaccines are being rolled out in phases, with those most at risk receiving vaccinations first.

The Australian Technical Advisory group on Immunisation (ATAGI) advises that Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) is preferred over COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca for people under 60. Details of ATAGI's recommendations are available [here](#).

We are currently vaccinating people aged 60 years and over using COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca.

We will commence vaccinating people aged 40-59 years using Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) from July 19, 2021, and are now taking bookings.

People aged 18-39 years, not otherwise eligible under Phase 1, will be eligible to receive Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) later in the year. However, people in this age group are eligible to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca now, after an individual risk/benefit analysis and consent process – requiring a consultation with one of our GPs prior to making a booking for vaccination.

All members of the community currently eligible for vaccination are welcome – you do not need to be a patient of Kingscliff Health to receive a vaccination from us.

Vaccinations are voluntary and free.

BEFORE YOU MAKE A BOOKING

Before you make a booking, please ensure you satisfy all items on the appropriate checklist below – COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca or Comirnaty (Pfizer). The information on this website and external links will enable you to do so. This process will enable you to make an informed decision regarding receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, and ensure we will be able to safely vaccinate you on the day of your appointment.

A printable version of the COVID-19 AstraZeneca checklist is available [here](#), and Comirnaty (Pfizer) checklist [here](#).

A printable version of the COVID-19 information on this website is available [here](#).

Printed copies of the information on this website and checklists can also be collected from our clinic.

COMIRNATY COVID-19 VACCINE (PFIZER) CHECKLIST

- I wish to be vaccinated with [Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine \(Pfizer\)](#).
- I am [eligible](#) to receive a Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer).
- My [Medicare details](#) are up to date.
- I do not have any [contra-indications](#) to Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer).
- I have considered the [precautions](#) to Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) relevant to me.
- I have considered the [special circumstances](#) regarding Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) relevant to me.
- I understand that the recommended [minimum timeframe](#) between receiving a dose of Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) and any other vaccine is 7 days.
- I have read and understood the [consent form](#) for Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer).
- I understand the [vaccination process](#) involves two doses of Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer), delivered via injection, approximately 3 weeks apart.
- I understand that whilst [adverse events](#) are extremely rare, they can occur.
- I understand that I will have to wait for up to 30 minutes after my vaccination for observation in case of an immediate adverse event.
- I understand that [side effects](#) can occur after receiving Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer).
- I understand that the [safety](#) of Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) will be continuously monitored throughout the vaccination program, and that I may be contacted via SMS in the week after vaccination for a brief survey.
- I understand that I will need to continue to follow other [preventive measures](#) once vaccinated.
- I understand that there are certain circumstances in which I will need to [cancel my vaccination](#) appointment.

- I will wear a mask and clothing that allows access to my upper arm for my vaccination appointment.
- I understand that my temperature will be taken upon arrival for my vaccination appointment.
- I will bring identification, my Medicare card, [proof of my eligibility](#), and a completed [consent form](#) to my vaccination appointment.
- I understand that I will be able to access a [record of my vaccination](#) online.
- I do not have any further questions or concerns OR I have booked an appointment with my usual GP to discuss my further questions and concerns.

MAKE A BOOKING

Once you have ensured you satisfy all items on the checklist above, please call us on [02 6670 1400](tel:0266701400) to make a booking.

KEEP UP TO DATE

To keep up to date regarding Kingscliff Health's COVID-19 vaccine clinic, check this webpage regularly, or follow us on [Facebook](#).

The latest news and information about COVID-19 vaccines in Australia from the Department of Health is available [here](#).

COMIRNATY COVID-19 VACCINE (PFIZER)

Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) is a vaccine that can prevent people from becoming ill from COVID-19. Comirnaty does not contain any live virus, and it cannot give you COVID-19. It contains the genetic code for an important part of the SARS-CoV-2 virus called the spike protein. After getting the vaccine, your body makes copies of the spike protein. Your immune system will then learn to recognise and fight against the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19. The genetic code is then broken down quickly by the body.

A very large clinical trial showed that Comirnaty is effective in preventing COVID-19 in people aged 16 years and older. People who had two doses of Comirnaty were about 95 per cent less likely to get symptomatic COVID-19 than people who did not get the vaccine. It was equally effective in people over the age of 65 years, as well as people with some stable pre-existing medical conditions.

ELIGIBILITY

[Eligibility criteria](#) apply for vaccination. You can check your eligibility with the Department of Health's [vaccine eligibility checker](#).

You will need to provide proof of eligibility to our administration staff upon arrival for your vaccination.

Eligibility criteria, and required forms of proof (click on the criteria that applies to you):

People over 50 years of age

- All standard forms of identification (drivers licence, passport) will be accepted.
- For individuals attending their usual GP, the clinic's records may be relied upon as evidence.
- Other forms of accepted evidence include:
 - My Health Record
 - Government issued documents with date of birth (e.g. Centrelink, Medicare, Department of Veterans Affairs)

Health care workers

- Proof of occupation (ID card, letter from employer)
- [Phase 1B Declaration Form](#)

Carers and disability workers

- Carers documentation or proof of occupation (ID card or letter from employer/ centre-based support provider)
- [Phase 1B Declaration Form](#)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults over 55 years

- Self-identification as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Person

Younger people with an underlying medical condition, including people with a disability

- For individuals attending their usual GP, the clinic's records may be relied upon as evidence
- MyHealth Record
- A referral from GP or treating specialist
- Alternative medical records, including:
 - a print out of your medical history as recorded in your clinical records;
 - a print out of your chronic disease careplan
 - a discharge summary from a hospital or other medical facility
 - a valid script or medication prescribed to treat one or more of the relevant medical conditions
- [Phase 1B Declaration Form](#)

Critical and high risk workers

- Proof of occupation (ID card, letter from employer)
- [Phase 1B Declaration Form](#)

MEDICARE DETAILS

Make sure your [Medicare details](#) are up to date. You can do this via:

- Your Medicare online account.
- Your myGov account.
- The Express Plus Medicare app.
- Calling the Medicare program.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

You should not receive Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) if you have had:

- anaphylaxis (a type of severe allergic reaction) to a previous dose of Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer), or
- anaphylaxis after exposure to any component of Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer), including polyethylene glycol (PEG)

PRECAUTIONS

Discuss your circumstances with your usual GP prior to vaccination if:

- You have had a possible allergic reaction to a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine or to an ingredient of the vaccine.
- You have ever had a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) after other vaccinations or to other medicines – your GP can check to ensure there are no common ingredients with the Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer).

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Children

Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) has only been provisionally approved for use in people aged 16 years or older, and cannot be given to younger people.

Pregnancy & Breastfeeding

Pregnant women are not routinely recommended to have Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer), but can consider vaccination:

- If they are at higher risk of getting COVID-19, for example, due to their occupation.
- If they have risk factors for severe illness, for example, due to pre-existing medical conditions.

If you are pregnant, your usual GP can help you to assess the benefits and risks of vaccination.

If you are breastfeeding, you can have Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer). You do not need to stop breastfeeding after vaccination.

A Department of Health COVID-19 vaccination decision guide for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning pregnancy is available [here](#).

Immunocompromise

Immunocompromised people include those who have a medical condition that weakens their immune system and those who may be taking medications that suppress their immune system.

It is strongly recommended that immunocompromised people receive COVID-19 vaccination due to their increased risk of severe illness with COVID-19.

Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer) is not a live vaccine. It is safe in people with immunocompromise. However, the immune response to vaccination may be reduced, which may result in lower vaccine effectiveness and protection compared with that in non-immunocompromised individuals. This emphasises the importance for immunocompromised people to continue other preventative measures after vaccination.

A Department of Health COVID-19 vaccination decision guide for people with immunocompromise is available [here](#).

People With A History Of Covid-19

A history of COVID-19, may reduce the risk of reinfection for at least 6 months from the time of infection. If you have had COVID-19 in the past, discuss this with your usual GP prior to immunisation. You may be advised to wait for up to six months after recovery before being vaccinated.

TIMEFRAME BETWEEN RECEIVING OTHER VACCINES

The recommended minimum timeframe between receiving a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and any other vaccine is 7 days. Although immune interference between a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines is unlikely, there are currently no data on co-administration of COVID-19 vaccines with other vaccines.

VACCINATION PROCESS

Vaccination involves two doses of the Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer). Doses are delivered via injection, most commonly in your upper arm. There should be approximately 3 weeks between the two doses. While one dose may give some protection, it may only last for the short-term. Two doses will give optimal protection.

No vaccine is 100 per cent effective, so it is possible that you can still get sick from COVID-19 after vaccination. We do not know how long the protection from Comirnaty will last. We will learn more about this over time.

ADVERSE EVENTS

Adverse events are extremely rare and include anaphylaxis (severe allergic reaction) and fainting.

A vast majority of adverse events occur within 30 minutes after vaccination. For this reason, you will need to remain in our clinic for observation for up to 30 minutes after each dose of the vaccine, in case of an adverse event, and to receive rapid medical care if needed. If you experience severe symptoms such as difficulty breathing, wheezing, a fast heartbeat, or collapsing, after you have left our clinic, call 000.

SIDE EFFECTS

Common side effects of COVID-19 vaccines include tenderness at the injection site, headache, tiredness, muscle ache, feeling unwell, chills, nausea, and fever. Most side effects start within 24 hours of vaccination and resolve within a few days without intervention. Paracetamol or ibuprofen can be taken to reduce discomfort. Seek medical care if side effects last for more than a few days.

Some of the expected side effects overlap with the symptoms of COVID-19, however, respiratory symptoms, such as cough and runny nose, are not known to be associated with the vaccine. If you develop respiratory symptoms after vaccination, self-isolate, and arrange a COVID-19 test.

SAFETY

The safety of COVID-19 vaccines will be continuously monitored throughout the COVID-19 vaccination program. Suspected side effects can be reported to your vaccination provider or usual GP. They will then make a formal report on your behalf to your state or territory health department or directly to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). If you would prefer to report it yourself, please visit the TGA website for information on how to report suspected side effects associated with COVID-19 vaccines. You may be contacted in the week after vaccination via SMS for a brief survey.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

No vaccine is 100 per cent effective, so it is possible that you can still get sick from COVID-19 after vaccination. Moreover, it is not yet known how long the immunity will last or whether it prevents transmission in asymptomatic vaccinated people with COVID-19. For these reasons, it is important to continue other preventive measures, including:

- Social distancing – stay at least 1.5 metres away from other people.

- Washing your hands often with soap and water, or use hand sanitiser.
- Wearing a mask, if your state or territory has advised that you should.
- Staying at home if you are unwell with cold or flu-like symptoms and arranging a COVID-19 test.

CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING CANCELLATION

You will need to cancel your vaccination if:

- Are unwell, have a fever, cough, runny nose or other symptoms that could be from COVID-19.
- Are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Have tested positive with COVID-19 and you are in isolation.
- Are in quarantine.
- Are a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

Upon arrival for your appointment, our administrative staff will ask if you are feeling unwell, have a fever, cough, or runny nose, and take your temperature. If you have any of these symptoms, appear unwell, or have a high temperature (over 38.5°C), we will cancel your appointment, and advise you to self-isolate and schedule a COVID-19 test.

WHAT TO BRING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT

You will need to bring:

- Identification.
- Medicare card.
- Proof of my eligibility.
- Completed consent form.

Please wear a face mask and clothing that allows access to your upper arm.

VACCINATION RECORD

Vaccination providers record all vaccinations on the Australian Immunisation Register, as required by Australian law. Once you've had your vaccine, you'll be able to get an immunisation history statement to prove your vaccination status. You can view your vaccination record online through your:

- [Medicare online account](#).
- [MyGov account](#).
- [MyHealthRecord account](#).