

COVID-19 Update for General Practice | JULY 2021

A QUICK GUIDE TO ASSIST YOUR PRACTICE STAFF

Second AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine	The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has released a statement clarifying the dosage intervals for AstraZeneca in the context of a COVID-19 outbreak. The advice clarifies that in an outbreak setting, an interval of 4-8 weeks is preferred. This information was outlined in the provider bulletin sent to your practice on the 13 th July 2021.
Consent forms for COVID-19 vaccinations	Consent forms for the COVID-19 vaccination are available here .
Pfizer EOI Process	The General Practice Pfizer Vaccine EOI is intended to identify General Practices which are interested in administering the Pfizer vaccine. GPs must already be participating in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program and have the capacity to administer both the Pfizer and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines as outlined here .
Recommendations to receive the Pfizer Vaccine (form/email)	This Request for Alternative Vaccine handout can be given to patients requesting the Pfizer vaccine as an alternative to AstraZeneca. The handout provides sound advice about current guidelines and requesting recommendations/rules. The <i>Request for Alternative Vaccine Form</i> is available via Hunter New England (HNE) and Central Coast HealthPathways (GP instructions , recommendation to receive alternative vaccine form and patient information sheet and vaccine form).
Paperless COVID-19 Clinics	Watch the PHN Mastermind on maximising the use of digital technology to create A Paperless COVID-19 Clinic and creating a QR code for your practice.
MBS Covid-19	MBS Covid-19 Vaccine Suitability Assessment Item Flowchart
PRODA Access to Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)	Please remember to check AIR prior to giving any vaccinations , to ensure that the patient has not received the COVID-19 vaccine in the previous week. Familiarise yourself with the ATAGI clinical guidelines . Only a Medical Practitioner, Midwife or Nurse Practitioner with a Medicare provider number can access the AIR via their PRODA account. Nurses, managers and or administration require delegation access to the AIR. Register now for an individual PRODA account or click here for more information.
Masks	When commercial supplies are unavailable, surgical masks can be requested from the National Stockpile via Capacity Tracker (Business Continuity/Requests) or by completing the PeopleBank Request Form .
Capacity Tracker	Capacity Tracker is a free, secure online communication tool that enables GPs to communicate current or potential operational issues quickly and easily to the PHN and activate PHN support. New features include PPE requests and vaccination management. Register now or click here for more information.
HealthPathways	For up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 vaccine information and roll out, visit Central Coast HealthPathways and Hunter New England HealthPathways (contact the PHN if you do not have the usernames and passwords). See Central Coast Patient Info and Hunter New England Patient Info for patient information.
COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker	If your patients are unsure about when they will become eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination, Healthdirect Australia has released a simple Vaccine Eligibility Checker that indicates when someone is eligible to be vaccinated. Email vaccine@thephn.com.au with any updates to contact details or availability.
COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs, Checklist & Toolkit	Commonly asked questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccine roll out in General Practice are available in our latest webinars. Visit the PHN website to view these recordings and check out the General Practice Preparedness checklists, resources , and toolkit . The Department of Health has a website dedicated to the latest COVID-19 Vaccine program-related advice for vaccine providers.
COVID-19 Mailing List	Subscribe here to receive the most recent PHN COVID-19 updates.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE ROLL OUT?

EMAIL THEM TO [VACCINE@THEPHN.COM.AU](mailto:vaccine@thephn.com.au)

(Updated 16th July 2021)