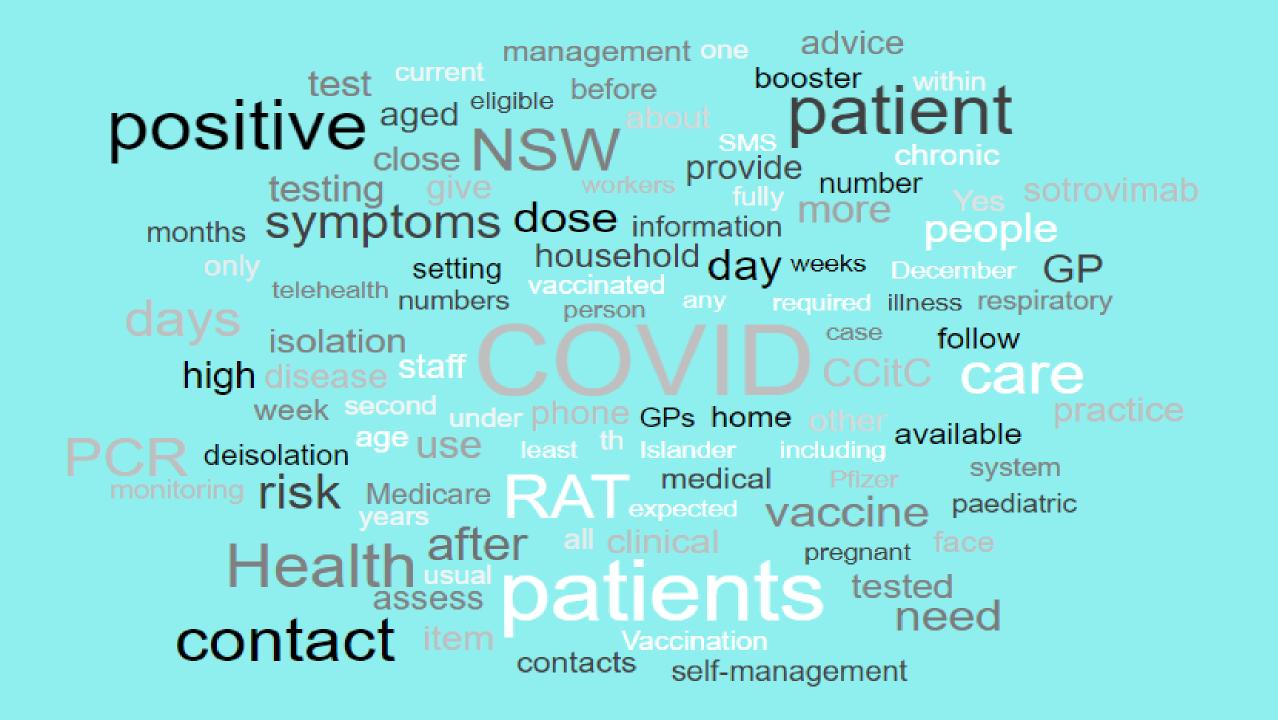
GP FAQ

Dr Michelle Redford

GP Blackbutt Doctors New Lambton

GP lead for "Living with Covid" at HNECC PHN







ABOUT

WHAT WE DO

PROGRAMS

EDUCATION ¬

COVID-19 FAQs for General Practice

Content provided by Dr Michelle Redford.

Caution – this is a rapidly evolving area – answers are being updated continuously and are correct at date of last update.

3 weeks – lots of change

Explosion in numbers

Self-management pathway

CCitC and Covid Kids@Home focus on higher risk patients

Escalation pathways — SeNT referral in HNE

Close contact rule and definition changes

Reduced contact tracing

Deisolation criteria/ auto

RAT instead of PCR and reporting

Medicare changes

New matrix for HCW and patient exposures

Booster vaccine interval

Mandatory vaccination for primary care

Starting vaccination for 5-11s

In a crisis

Team safety, service continuity and self care

Who needs urgent help – COVID/ other incl MH – triage/ filtering

Who needs more monitoring / sotrovimab/ budesonide/ pulse oximeter and how to sort that

Encouraging self management, reassurance

Continuing to vaccinate

Reducing the risk of closure

- Telehealth
- Surgical masks for patients
- Waiting room consider mobile HEPA air filtration
- Appropriate PPE and eye protection within 1.5m of a patient
- Fully vaccinated workforce with increasing rates of booster doses
- Staff do not attend the workplace if symptomatic
- TEA ROOMS minimising close interactions with others and only removing masks when immediately eating or drinking
- Staff must test if they have symptoms of COVID-19



COVERNMENT Health		CONTACT TYPE – See page 2 for more detailed assessment of a breach			
Case = Any confirmed positive case of COVID-19 (co-worker, patient, or other) NB: All exposure category decisions are based on a local risk assessment NB: The use of protective eyewear for contact tracing is applied for droplet precautions when within 1.5m of a positive case (where a mask is not being worn by the case). The absence of eyewear outside of this setting will not increase risk. Health agencies are to ensure that appropriate space is provided for staff to observe break entitlements in accordance with Award provisions		Transient Contact – Low Risk Transient, not face-to-face, limited contact that does not meet the definition of face-to-face contact OR *Note: always subject to local documented risk assessment, including assessments of occupational exposures and of the closed space	Medium Risk Scenarios Any face-to-face contact within 1.5 metres and less than 15 minutes OR In general, greater than 30 mins in a closed space OR Based on agreed documented risk assessment including assessments of occupational exposures and of the physical environment	Highest Risk Scenarios Prolonged face-to-face contact within 1.5 metres and greater than 15 minutes OR Aerosol generating behaviours (AGBs e.g. coughing) OR Aerosol generating procedures (AGPs)	
case	No effective PPE worn by staff member or case e.g. no PPE or PPE with major breaches such as mask below nose	Moderate Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	
worker and	Surgical mask only worn by staff member i.e. no eye protection Case no PPE	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	
worn during contact between health	Surgical mask only worn by staff member Case wearing surgical mask	Low Risk	Low Risk	Moderate Risk Depending on risk assessment OR Depending on risk assessment	
	4. Staff member in surgical mask and eye protection* with no concerns or breaches Case no PPE "Use of gown/apron and gloves should be risk assessed based on individual incident, exposure to body substance and chances of environmental contamination	Low Risk	Low Risk	Moderate Risk Depending on risk assessment OR Depending on risk assessment	
	5. Staff member in surgical mask and eye protection* with no concerns or breaches Case wearing surgical mask See note in Category 4 box	Low Risk	Low Risk	Low Risk If no AGP/AGB OR OR	
PPE	6. Staff member in P2/N95 mask and eye protection* with no concerns or breaches Case either with or without PPE * See note in Category 4 box	Low Risk	Low Risk	Low Risk	

This Risk matrix does not replace the CEC Application of PPE Guide https://www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/644004/COVID-19-IPAC-manual.pdf

LOW RISK

Continue to work HCW alert to mild symptoms Test (PCR) if symptomatic MODERATE RISK Continue to attend work with risk management plan RAT test not earlier than day 2 post exposure. For 14 days after exposure:

Consider redeploying to lower patient risk area if possible Mask wearing at all times - surgical or N95 as per CEC guidance Do not enter shared spaces such as tearooms and do not participate in any staff gatherings

Careful monitoring for symptoms

HIGH RISK

Do not attend the workplace for 7 days post exposure.

If significant risk to safe service delivery, senior manager to review. May return with minimum: Daily RAT for 7 days after exposure ;AND PCR test on day 2&6 after exposure (where feasible) ;AND for 14 days after exposure

Consider redeploying to lower patient risk area if possible Mask wearing at all times - surgical or N95 as per CEC guidance

Do not enter shared spaces such as tearooms and do not participate in any staff gatherings Careful monitoring for symptoms

Patient / Visitor Exposure to COVID-19 case

#Case = Any confirmed positive case of COVID-19

NB: P2/N95 Respirators are not recommended for use by the patient for COVID-19

Contact type

<u>Transient contact – Low Risk</u> Scenarios

Transient, limited contact that does not meet the definition of face-to-face contact (e.g., inpatient collocated in same area where potential patient transmission has occurred)

Medium Risk Scenarios

Any face-to-face contact within 1.5 metres and less than 15 minutes

OR

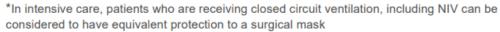
In general, greater than 30 mins in a closed space (e.g., same ward bay +/- shared bathroom,)

High Risk Scenarios

Prolonged face-to-face contact within 1.5 metres and greater than 15 minutes

PPE worn by case# and patient/visitor contact

		occurred)		
Case: Contact:	No Mask No Mask	Moderate	Moderate OR High (household like contact > 4hrs)	High
Case: Contact:	Surgical mask No Mask	Low	Moderate	High
Case: Contact:	No Mask Surgical Mask*	Low	Moderate	High
Case: Contact:	Surgical mask Surgical mask*	Low	Low	Moderate
Case (HW): Contact:	P2/N95 respirator No Mask	Low	Low	Low OR Moderate
Case (HW): Contact:	P2/N95 respirator Surgical mask*	Low	Low	Low







	Actions based on risk classification (from table above)				
Risk classification	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk		
Requirements while in healthcare facility	Isolation not required	Isolate (closed crib if previously in an open cot) or cohort¹ until negative day 2 test RAT or PCR test wherever feasible RAT or PCR at day 2 and day 6, post exposure Ongoing monitoring² for 14 days post exposure	Isolate or cohort for 7 days whereever feasible PCR test at day 2 and 6 post exposure Subsequent testing as per routine inpatient surveillance if in place; if not perform a day 12 RAT if remains in hospital RAT or PCR test every 48hrs from day 8-14 (where removed from isolation and able) and ongoing monitoring ²		
	Monitor for symptoms, RAT if symptomatic				
Requirements while in the community	Isolation not required	RAT at day 2 and 6 post exposure Ongoing monitoring in the community until 14 days post exposure as per the guidance at 'How can we all help slow the spread of COVID-19'	Isolate for 7 days from exposure RAT at day 2 and 6 post exposure Ongoing monitoring in the community until 14 days post exposure as per the guidance at 'How can we all help slow the spread of COVID-19'		

¹If single room capacity exceeded, moderate risk contacts can be isolated or cohorted together based on risk assessment with transmission-based precautions.





² Ongoing monitoring should include monitoring for symptoms, testing regime, surgical mask wearing as able and avoiding sharing a room where able with patients significantly immunocompromised.

BLACKBUTT DOCTORS COVID-19 TRANSMISSION RISK REDUCTION MATRIX VERSION 10 9TH JANUARY 2022 DR MICHELLE REDFORD

	Low transmission	Moderate transmission	High transmission	Standard precautions
	Green alert	Amber alert	Red alert	always apply
Staff in vaccination clinics	Standard precautions	Surgical mask	Surgical mask	Ventilation - HEPA mobile
		Eye protection	Eye protection	filtration unit in waiting room
Staff with repeated brief	Standard precautions	Surgical mask	P2/N95 respirator	Staff immunisation up to date,
contact with unscreened			Eye protection	unwell workers stay home
patients e.g. swab collection				
Non-clinical staff on reception.	Standard precautions	Surgical mask	Surgical mask	Physical distancing 1.5m
Minimal patient contact,			Eye protection	including breaks/ tea-room
shared enclosed space,				
protective screen				Screening for COVID-19
Non-clinical staff with no	Standard precautions	Standard precautions	Surgical mask	symptoms and ER– door, phone,
patient contact (back office)		or surgical mask if mandated	Work from home if possible	online
		by PHO		
People attending with	Surgical mask	Surgical mask	Surgical mask	Separate respiratory
respiratory symptoms		No access to waiting room	No access to waiting room	presentations, no coughing in
People attending without	Standard precautions	Surgical mask or cloth mask	Surgical mask	waiting room
respiratory symptoms			Minimise waiting room time	
			Visitors by exception only	Hand hygiene, respiratory
Patient characteristics	OTHER	CLINICAL STAI	F E	hygiene, cough etiquette. Gloves
Patient without ARI	Standard precautions	Surgical mask	Telehealth preferred	single use, no double gloving.
AND no ER			Surgical mask	al . Live
			Eye protection	Cleaning and disinfection
Patient with ARI	Surgical mask	Surgical mask	P2/N95 respirator	All nations contact clinical and
AND no ER	Eye protection	Eye protection	Eye protection	All patient contact – clinical and non-clinical staff
	Fluid resistant gown	Fluid resistant gown	Fluid resistant gown	
	Gloves	Gloves	Gloves	-Long hair tied back -Bare below the elbows
Patient with suspected or	P2/N95 respirator	P2/N95 respirator		
confirmed COVID19 or	Eye protection	Eye protection		-Easily cleanable closed shoes
identified as household	Fluid resistant gown	Fluid resistant gown		No masks with valves
contact	Gloves	Gloves		Surgical masks last up to 4 hours
				P2/ N95 – fit check every time,
				wear for up to 4 hours
API = acute respiratory infection of	. 50 00///0.40	enidemiological rick e.g. househols	d contact DHO = Bublic Health	

ARI = acute respiratory infection symptoms

ER = COVID-19 epidemiological risk e.g. household contact PHO = Public Health Order

Disclaimer - this is provided as an example of one practice's approach, it does not replace individual practice risk assessment, and is subject to change

Screening questions

- Have you tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
- Has anyone you live with or spent more than 4 hours with tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
- Do you have any symptoms of COVID-19?
- Are you waiting for the results of a COVID-19 test?

No temperature checks

Workplace issues

Alert in NSW app

Covid positive staff member

Staff member covid exposure

PHU response

Return to work

Covid case - minimum 7 days isolation, then avoid high risk settings for a further 3 days

Household contact - 7 days isolation from last contact with covid positive person. RAT as soon as possible and again on Day 6. Another RAT if develop symptoms. If all tests are negative, leave isolation after 7 days. Then avoid high risk settings for 7 days

HCW who are household contacts (not cases) and essential can RTW with management approval, daily RAT and risk mitigation in place

No routine testing or repeat isolation for 1 month following deisolation post covid

No secondary close contacts now

Deisolation

Day 0 - date positive test collected

Info going out with initial SMS now

Self deisolate day 7 – need resolution of fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose and breathlessness by day 6, without further testing

Do not need to wait to receive the SMS from NSW Health

If still symptoms day 6 patient should contact NSW Care at Home Support Line on 1800 960 933

Do not enter high risk settings (healthcare, aged care, disability care or correctional facilitates) unless for personal care for at least 3 days after you have been released from isolation

Households – other covid cases / contacts

Medical clearance note not generally needed

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Documents/medical-clearance-notice-form.pdf

Medicare

New item number for phone > 20 minutes is 91894 ONLY for MMM6 - 7

12 month rule does not apply if patient has covid

Still applies if doctor is in isolation

Patient with "COVID-19 infection of recent onset and confirmed by laboratory testing" face to face -bill the \$25 item number 93715 in addition to your usual item number. Not clear what to do about RAT positive

Usual billing practices apply

30/20 rule deferred until at least the end of June 2022 - Medicare audit

https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/register-positive-rapid-antigen-test-result

Register a positive rapid antigen test (RAT) result

From 12 January, you must register a positive rapid antigen test result:

- when you receive your result.
- every time you get a positive result.

If you have tested positive and registered your result, you can:

- quickly understand your relative level of risk based on your personal circumstances
- access support services available from NSW Health
- access financial support, such as the Pandemic Disaster Leave Payment.

Register your COVID-19 test result

Register a positive rapid antigen test result

Please complete this form if you had a positive result on a rapid antigen test (i.e. on a home test) By reporting your result with NSW Health we can make sure you get access to the support you need.

All fields are mandatory unless marked optional.

Are you filling this out for yourself or on behalf of another person?

For myself				
On behalf of another adult aged 16 years or older				
On behalf of a child aged 15 years or younger				
Declaration				
I have read the Privacy Collection Notice and understand that Service NSW may lawful retain, use and disclose personal and health information about me to NSW Health, and NSW Health may contact me or share this with third parties, to provide me with appropriate health information for my circumstances, and to plan and provide appropriate appropriate health information for my circumstances.	ĺ			
health services informed by numbers and locations of positive COVID-19 cases.				
I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under Part of the Crimes Act 1900 (NSW). I acknowledge that I may be liable to imprisonment for to two years and/or a fine of up to \$22,000 if I am convicted of an offence under Part	up			

Our Privacy Collection Notice explains how your personal information will be handled.

Submit

of the Crimes Act 1900 (NSW).

Mandatory vaccination

Started 23 December 2021

The clinical and non-clinical General Practice workforce are stage 2 health care workers

A stage 2 health care worker must have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by 31 January 2022 and their second dose by 28 February 2022

Booster vaccinations also set to be mandatory for certain healthcare workers

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid -19/Pages/public-health-orders.aspx#hcw



Public Health (COVID-19 Vaccination of Health Care Workers) Order (No 3) 2021

under the

Public Health Act 2010

I, Brad Hazzard, the Minister for Health, make the following Order under the *Public Health Act* 2010, section 7.

Dated 23 December 2021 (original order).

Time: 4:05pm

As amended on 23 December 2021.

Boosters for people aged 18 and over

Pfizer or half dose Moderna (0.25ml)

4 months from second dose, likely to be 3 months from end January

Includes pregnant women

Includes immunocompromised people who had 3 dose primary course

Bill extra item number 93666 for \$10 as well as usual item code for dose 2

Department of Health

Australian Technical Advisory Group

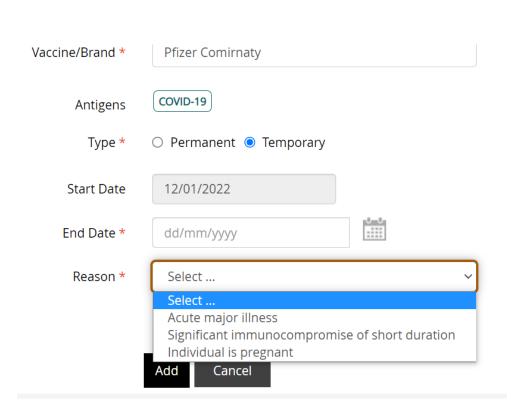
Can give with other vaccines

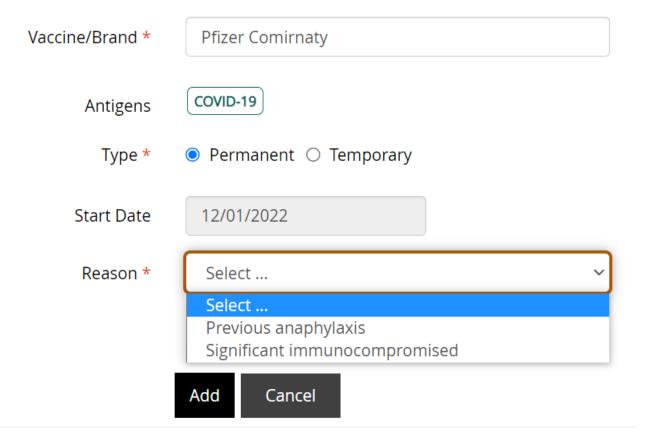
Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI)

recommendation of the control of the

Version 2.0 24 December 2021

Vaccine exemptions on AIR





https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/vaccine/Documents/covid-19-vaccine-contraindication.pdf

	TO THE STOP	TION	NSV construe
To whom it n	nay concern.		
		ioner. I certify that, Given name	
amily name		DOB:	
Residential a	address:		
Section A	A – Medical contr	aindication	
			of all of the COVID-19 vaccines available for use in Australia:
Pfizer (Cor COVID-19		Moderna (Spikevax) COVID-19 vaccine	AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria) COVID-19 vaccine
Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 1 Dose 2	Dose 1 Dose 2
to a cor Pfizer (COVID Serious attribute	of anaphylaxis mponent of the (Comirnaty) I-19 vaccine adverse event ed to the first dose Pfizer (Comirnaty)	History of anaphylaxis to a component of the Moderna (Spikevax) COVID-19 vaccine Serious adverse event attributed to the first dose of the Moderna (Spikevax)	History of anaphylaxis to a component of the AstraZeneca (Vaxzervis) COVID-19 vaccine History of capillary leak syndrome History of any of the following medical conditions: corefetal venous sinus thrombosis (CVST) heparin-induced thrombosytopenia (HIT)
Other s	-19 vaccine, being: specified medical indication, being:	COVID-19 vaccine, being: Other specified medical	idiopathic splanchnic (mesenteric, portal or splenic) vein thrombosis antiphospholipid syndrome (APLS) with thrombosis and/or miscarriage Serious adverse event attributed to the first dose of the
		contraindication, being:	AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria) COVID-19 vaccine, being: Other specified medical contraindication, being:
Section E Has the foli available for	lowing temporary me for use in Australia		up to 6 months wing dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines up to 6 months)
Has the foli available foli acute m	owing temporary me or use in Australia najor illness, being:	dical contraindication(s) to receiventit	ving dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines
Section E Has the foli available fr acute m significa	iowing temporary me for use in Australia najor illness, being: ant immunocompror	dical contraindication(s) to receivents	ving dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines (up to 6 months)
Has the foliavailable for acute musicipals acute musicipals compast co	lowing temporary me for use in Australia najor illness, being: ant immunocompro- infirmed infection wi	dical contraindication(s) to receive the contraindication (s) to receive the contraint of the contra	ving dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines (up to 6 months)
Has the foliavailable for acute musicipals acute musicipals compast co	lowing temporary me for use in Australia najor illness, being: ant immunocompro- infirmed infection wi	dical contraindication(s) to receivents	ving dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines (up to 6 months)
Section E Has the foli available fi acute m signification past co other sp	lowing temporary me for use in Australia najor illness, being: ant immunocompro- infirmed infection wi	dical contraindication(s) to receive until	ving dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines (up to 6 months)
Has the folionavailable file acute in signification past collision other square.	owing temporary me or use in Australia najor illness, being: ant immunocompro- infirmed infection wi pecified temporary i	dical contraindication(s) to receive until	ving dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines (up to 6 months)
Has the folional service of the research of th	owing temporary me or use in Australia najor illness, being: ant immunocompro- infirmed infection wi pecified temporary i	dical contraindication(s) to receive until	uting dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines
Section E Has the foli available fi acute m signific past co other si Medical pr	owing temporary me or use in Australia najor illness, being: ant immunocompro- infirmed infection wi pecified temporary i	dical contraindication(s) to receive until	uting dose 1 dose 2 of any of the COVID-19 vaccines

COVID-19 VACCINE MEDICAL CONTRAINDICATION



Notes

A pattern must have medical contraindications to all of the COVID-19 vaccines available for use in Australia in order to be exempted from COVID-19 vaccines requirements under public health orders. If a patient has a medical contraindication to one brand of COVID-19 vaccines, they may be able to be offered an alternate brand, if suitable.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) provide cinicinal guidance on the use of COVID-19 vaccines; wave health governments and approximation of the COVID-19 vaccines in Australia, including guidance on contraindications to COVID-19 vaccines; wave health governments and contraindications and covided the contraindication and covided the contraindication and covided the co

² Temporary contraindication can only be recorded for up to 6 months. If the contraindication persists beyond this time the person will require review by an appropriate medical practitioner. If the cause of the medical contraindication persists, a new medical contraindication form will need to be connotleted.

³ People who have had a recent SARS-CoV-2 infection can be offered COVID-19 vaccination. There is no requirement to delay COVID-19 vaccination following SARS-CoV-2 infection, if the person has fully recovered from their acute illness.

COVID-19 vaccination may be deferred for up to 6 months after SARS-CoV-2 infection, as recent infection reduces the chance of reinfection for at least this amount of time.

Reasons that people may choose to receive a COVID-19 vaccine following recent SARS-CoV-2 infection may include they:

- have significant immunocompromise and may be at greater risk of reinfection
- have a job that requires them to be vaccinated against COVID-19
- have a job that puts them at greater risk of being exposed to COVID-19.

People should not be contained until they have recovered from their acute liness. If a patient has a SARS-COV2 infection or develops COVI—1 between their first and second doses, the patient should not receive the until they have recovered from their acute lines. People with symptoms following SARS-CoV2 infection that continue for longer was not constituted to the continue for longer than their continue for longer than the longer than their continue for longer than the longer than their continue for longer than the longer than the longer than their continue for longer than the longer than the

If the person chooses to defer COVID-19 vaccination following recent infection and they are required to be vaccinated or produce a medical contraindication certificate, this can be indicated by completing section B of this form.

Recording a medical contraindication to COVID-19 vaccines in the Australian Immunisation Register

The Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) immunisation medical exemption form will provide a person with digital evidence of a permanent or temporary medical contraindication to the available COVID-19 vaccines on their immunisation history statement. This provises in a provise provise and provise statement this provise since provise and provise statement this provise since provise and provise statement this provise since provise statement this provise since provise statement this provise since provise since provise statement this provise since provise since provide a person with the provise since provide a person with digital evidence of a person with the provide a person with the provide a person with the provide and the provide a person with the pro

The AIR immunisation medical exemption form is recognised as an acceptable form for recording a medical contraindication to COVID-19 vaccination in NSW in addition to this NSW medical contraindication form.

Instructions for the patient

Please keep this completed form safe. You may be required to present this completed form to your workplace as evidence of your medical contraindication to COVID-19 vaccination and carry it with you when you are working. Please check the NSW Government website for more information about the requirements for your workplace.

Anyone who has been issued with the NSW medical contraindication form is encouraged to speak to their medical practitioner about getting their medical contraindication added to their immunisation record on the AIR

Paediatric vaccine expiry – use the earliest

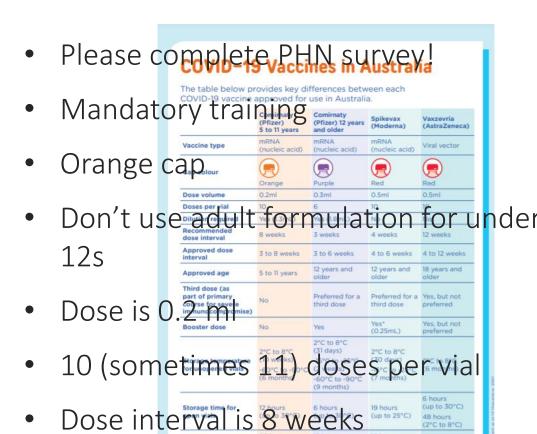
Thawed expiry date



Manufacturer expiry date on vial

Add 5 months to date printed on vial e.g. Jan 22 -> 30th June 22

Is recorded in the Delivery Acceptance forms in the CVAS



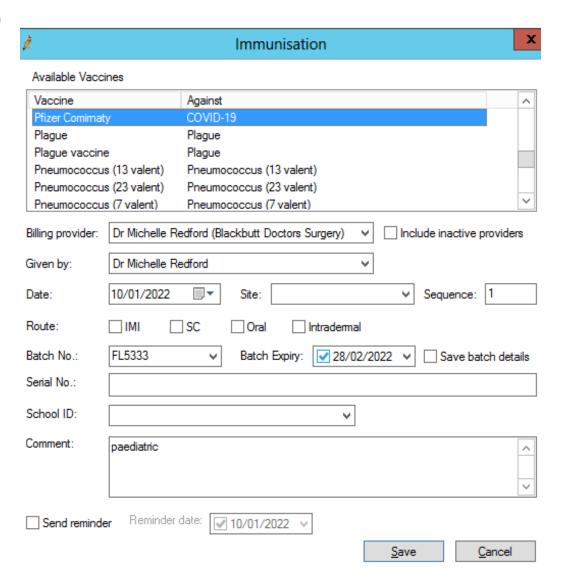
• If child turns 12 between doses give adult vaccine for second shot

Pfizer for 5-11 year olds

Medicare items the same as adults

If no specific vaccine in software use adult one

AIR does not differentiate between adult and paediatric formulations



Vaccine Administration Error	ATAGI Recommendation	
Less than half of the vaccine dose volume (estimated) was administered	Give a replacement dose a minimum of 1 week after the invalid dose, and a subsequent dose as indicated	
Incorrect diluent (such as sterile water for injection) used to dilute Pfizer (COMIRNATY) (For Age 5 to <12 Years) vaccine dose	Give a replacement dose of Pfizer (COMIRNATY) (For Age 5 to <12 Years) a minimum of 1 week after the invalid dose, and a subsequent dose as indicated	
Only the diluent of Pfizer (COMIRNATY) (For Age 5 to <12 Years) was administered (i.e. no Pfizer (COMIRNATY) vaccine ingredient)	Give a replacement dose of Pfizer (COMIRNATY) (For Age 5 to <12 Years) as soon as feasible, and a subsequent dose if indicated	

Refer to the <u>ATAGI clinical guidance on replacement doses for invalid primary</u> <u>courses of COVID-19 vaccines</u> for further information.

Great questions