



NDIS Quality
and Safeguards
Commission

The COVID-19 vaccine

Information for NDIS participants who live in residential disability accommodation

Easy Read fact sheet



What's in this fact sheet?

The COVID-19 vaccine	3
It's your choice	6
If you don't want the COVID-19 vaccine	8
Support workers	10
Service providers	12
More information	16
Word list	22
Contact us	23

How to use this fact sheet



The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission) wrote this fact sheet.

When you see the word 'we', it means the NDIS Commission.



We wrote this fact sheet in an easy to read way. We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Not bold
Bold

We have written some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 22.



This Easy Read fact sheet is a summary of another fact sheet.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.

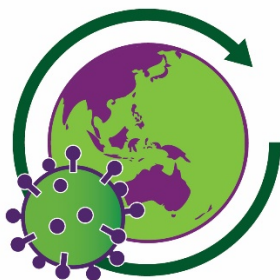


You can find the other fact sheet on our website at www.ndiscommission.gov.au



You can ask for help to read this fact sheet. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

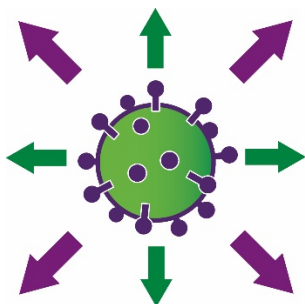
The COVID-19 vaccine



Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a **virus** that has affected many people around the world.



A virus is an illness or disease that can spread from one person to another person.



COVID-19 can spread:

- easily
- quickly.



A COVID-19 **vaccine** will help us:

- stay safe
- live freely.

A vaccine is medicine that:



- helps people fight a virus if they come in contact with it



- can help stop people from getting very sick from the virus.

The COVID-19 vaccine is a safe way to protect:



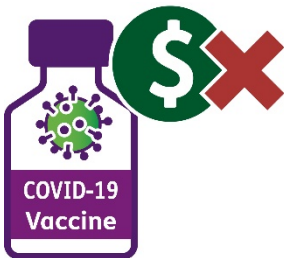
- you



- your family



- the community.



The COVID-19 vaccine is free.

It's your choice



You can choose to have the vaccine.

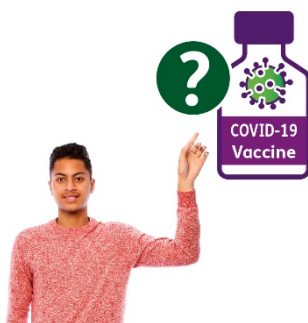


But you don't have to have the vaccine if you don't want to.

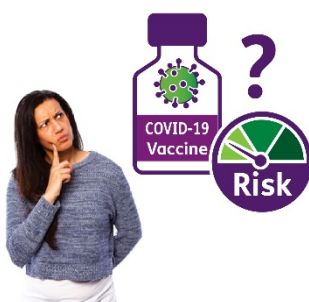
Before you get the vaccination, you should know:



- what the COVID-19 vaccine is for



- why we need the COVID-19 vaccine



- the risks of the COVID-19 vaccine.



You can talk to your family about getting the vaccination.



You can ask your doctor about the COVID-19 vaccine too.

You can ask someone to help you talk to the doctor, such as a:



- family member

- carer or **guardian**.



A guardian is a person who acts and makes decisions for you.

If you don't want the COVID-19 vaccine



You don't have to have the vaccine if you don't want it.



If you don't have the vaccine, your service provider must keep supporting you.



Your support worker must also try to keep you safe from COVID-19.

Your support worker must:



- wash their hands



- keep a safe distance from you if they can



- wear **personal protective equipment (PPE)** if they need to.

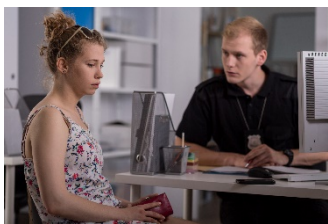
PPE includes things like:



- face masks
- face shields
- gloves.



You can make a **complaint** if you stop getting the supports you need.



A complaint is when you talk to us because something has gone wrong with your supports or services.

To make a complaint you can:



- call us on **1800 035 544**



- fill out a **complaint contact form**.

Support workers



You have the right to choose your support worker.



You may only want support workers who have had the vaccine.



You can ask your service provider to make sure you only get support from someone who has had the vaccine, if that's what you want.



You might have a support worker you use already.



If this support worker doesn't want the vaccine, you can ask your service provider to find someone else to support you.

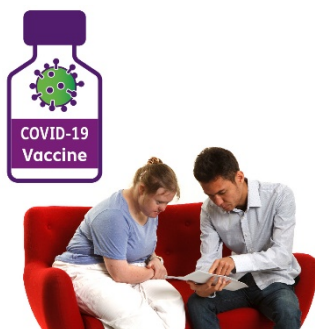


If you want to keep using your support worker, you can ask them to make sure they do the right things to keep you safe.

Service providers



There are things your provider must do to get ready for the COVID-19 vaccine.



Your provider must talk to you about the COVID-19 vaccine.



They must communicate with you in the way that you want them to.

For example, you might want them to:



- speak to you



- write it for you



- use pictures to communicate with you



- talk to your family or guardian.



Your provider must help answer your questions about the vaccine.



Your provider must help you understand the risks of COVID-19.

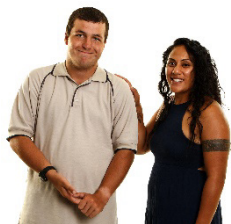


Your provider must ask if you need support to get the vaccine.

This includes support from your:

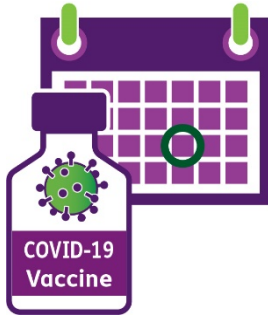


- family

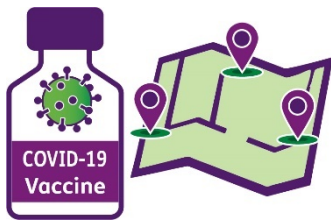


- carer or guardian.

Your providers must have a plan about:



- when you will get the vaccine



- where you can wait before you get the vaccine.



Your provider must have a plan about how they will keep everyone safe while they wait to have the vaccine.

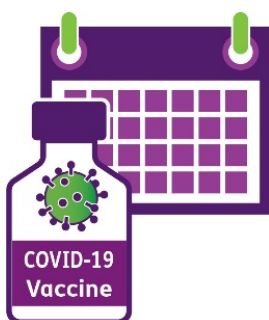
More information

Australian Government Department of Health

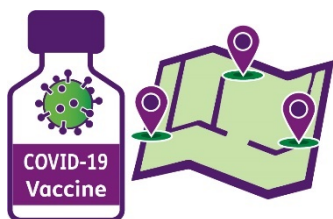


You can go to the [Department of Health webpage](#) to find more information about the COVID-19 vaccine.

This includes:



- when you can get the vaccine



- where you can get the vaccine from.



Other resources include:

- [Information on COVID-19 Pfizer \(Comirnaty\) vaccine](#)
- [Preparing for COVID-19 vaccination](#)
- [After your COVID-19 vaccination](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination decision guide for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or planning pregnancy](#)
- [Supporting people with intellectual or developmental disability to access health care during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [Information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples about COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- [Consent form for COVID-19 vaccination](#)
- [Vaccine information in other languages.](#)



Easy Read information

- [COVID-19 vaccine - Overview](#)
- [What is the COVID-19 vaccine? Is it safe?](#)
- [Who will get the vaccine?](#)
- [Where can you get the vaccine?](#)
- [The Pfizer vaccine](#)
- [Getting ready for the vaccination](#)
- [What to expect when you have your vaccination](#)
- [Giving your consent](#)
- [After your vaccination](#)
- [Other information](#)



Auslan videos

- [About Australia's COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- [How COVID-19 vaccines work](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine National Rollout](#)
- [Approval of a COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- [The making of vaccines](#)

The Disability Gateway



You can contact the Disability Gateway for more information about COVID-19.

They can also help your:



- family



- carers



- support workers.



You can call the Disability Gateway on **1800 643 787**.



They are open from 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday.



If you need information in a language other than English, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450**.



If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, you can call the National Relay Service on **133 677**.

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



Complaint

A complaint is when you talk to us because something has gone wrong with your supports or services.



Guardian

A guardian is a person who acts and makes decisions for you.



Personal protective equipment (PPE)

PPE includes things like:

- face masks
- face shields
- gloves.

Contact us



You can call us from 9am to 5pm,
Monday to Friday.



If you live in the Northern Territory, you can
call us from 9am to 4.30pm.



1800 035 544



Send us an email:

contactcentre@ndiscommission.gov.au



NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission

PO Box 210

Penrith

NSW 2750



NDIS Quality
and Safeguards
Commission



www.ndiscommission.gov.au



TTY

133 677



The National Relay Service

Speak and Listen

1300 555 727

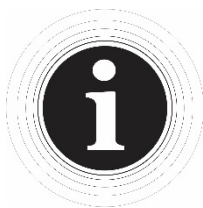
SMS relay number

0423 677 767



Internet relay calls

internet-relay.nrscall.gov.au



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Quote job number 3985.