



**NDIS Quality  
and Safeguards  
Commission**

# Supporting your rights to have a COVID-19 vaccine

**Easy Read statement**



## How to use this statement



The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission) wrote this statement.

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



We wrote this statement 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.



This Easy Read statement is a summary of another statement.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the full statement on our website at

[www.ndiscommission.gov.au/document/3391](http://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/document/3391).



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



If you're an NDIS provider, you will be sent a  
link to the statement on 5 November 2021.



[createsend.com/t/t-  
7B22202BCAF074A42540EF23F30FEDED](https://createsend.com/t/t-7B22202BCAF074A42540EF23F30FEDED)

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## What is this statement about?



The **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)** Act is a law that explains how the NDIS works.



The NDIS provides services and supports to **participants**.



Participants are people who take part in the NDIS.



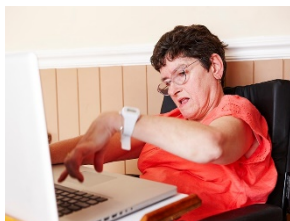
The NDIS Act also talks about participants' **rights**.



Rights are rules about how everyone should be treated fairly.

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Participants have the right to get NDIS supports that help them:



- make their own choices about things that affect them



- reach their goals



- live and do things on their own and for themselves



- be included in the community

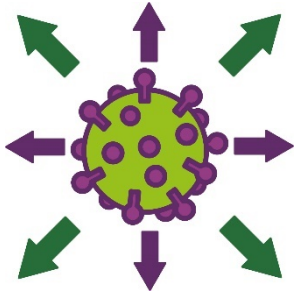


- take part in the community.

## COVID-19 vaccines



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



COVID-19 can spread:

- easily
- quickly.



A **vaccine** is medicine that:

- helps you fight a virus if you come in contact with it
- can stop you getting very sick from the virus.

Having a COVID-19 vaccine will help keep:



- you safe



- the community safe.



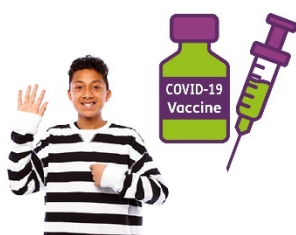
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## Getting a COVID-19 vaccine



**12+**

Most people in Australia aged 12 and over can have a COVID-19 vaccine.



They all have the right to get a COVID-19 vaccine if they want to.



Everyone in Australia has the right to find and use information about COVID-19 vaccines in a way they understand.



This includes getting information from a doctor to help decide if you should have a COVID-19 vaccine.



## Why is getting a COVID-19 vaccine important?



**Restrictions** are rules about:

- when you can leave your home
- what you can do.



Some parts of Australia have less COVID-19 restrictions.

But this can put people with disability who haven't had a COVID-19 vaccine more at risk of:



- catching COVID-19
- getting sick.



When you've had all the doses you need of a COVID-19 vaccine, we say you have been **fully vaccinated**.



Being fully vaccinated helps keep people with disability safe when there are less restrictions.

## Supporting participants to make a decision



All participants must make a decision about getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

NDIS workers should support participants to decide if they:



- will have a COVID-19 vaccine



- don't want a COVID-19 vaccine.

NDIS workers can:



- ask participants what they want



- give participants information about COVID-19 vaccines.

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NDIS workers can support participants to:



- see their doctor



- say what they want



- support participants to find and use an **advocate**.

An advocate is someone who can:



- support you
- help you have your say
- give you information and advice.



NDIS workers can also support participants with the choice they make.



When NDIS workers support participants, they need to speak up about any support the participant needs to make decisions.



A participant might have someone they have chosen who makes decisions for them.



This includes making decisions about having a COVID-19 vaccine.



NDIS workers shouldn't talk to other people about what a participant chooses to do.



Participants have the right to find and use an advocate if they don't get support for their decision.

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## If an NDIS worker doesn't support a participant's decision



Participants should call us if an NDIS worker doesn't support their decision.



**1800 035 544**

## Information about COVID-19 vaccines



There are lots of ways you can get information about COVID-19 vaccines.



You can go to the Disability Gateway website.

[www.disabilitygateway.gov.au](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au)



You can also call the Disability Gateway.



**1800 643 787**



Monday to Friday

8am to 8pm

If you need information in a different language,  
you can:



- call the Translating and Interpreting Service  
**131 450**



- ask for the Disability Gateway.



You can contact the National Relay Service if you:

- are deaf
- have trouble speaking or hearing.



**1800 555 677**

You can also visit the Department of Health website for information in:



- Easy Read
- Auslan.



[www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/disability-sector/people-with-disability](http://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/disability-sector/people-with-disability)



## 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](mailto:contactcentre@ndiscommission.gov.au)



NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission

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Penrith

NSW 2750



[www.ndiscommission.gov.au](http://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](http://internet-relay.nrscall.gov.au)



[www.linkedin.com/company/ndiscommisson](http://www.linkedin.com/company/ndiscommisson)



[www.facebook.com/NDISCommission](http://www.facebook.com/NDISCommission)



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