

Updated recommendations for a winter COVID-19 vaccine dose

07 July 2022

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has released updated recommendations for a winter COVID-19 vaccination dose (second booster / fourth dose).

The updated recommendations are:

- winter doses can be given 3 months after the first booster dose (previously 4 months)
- adults aged 50 to 64 years are now recommended to get a winter COVID-19 vaccine dose (second booster)
- adults aged 30 to 49 years can get a winter COVID-19 vaccine dose, however the benefit for people in this age group is less certain.

ATAGI emphasises that people previously eligible for a winter booster dose remain at higher risk of severe disease and death from COVID-19 and should receive a winter booster dose as soon as possible.

People who have recently had COVID-19 should still wait 3 months after infection before they get their next dose.

Please make an appointment with your local GP or pharmacist using the [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#) .

ACT Government can take bookings at our [Access and Sensory vaccination clinic](#) for people who have access and sensory needs who meet this criteria.

A reminder COVID-19 vaccinations can be given at the same time as your annual influenza (flu) vaccine.

If you have any specific questions, including timing and eligibility for vaccination, speak to a GP or healthcare practitioner for further advice.

The updated recommendations aim to reduce the risk of severe disease from the emerging surge of Omicron BA.4 and BA.5 subvariant infections, and to reduce the burden on Australian hospitals and the healthcare system.

It's important to be aware that the following COVID Smart measures will also help protect the ACT community against the surge of new COVID-19 infections.

This includes:

- wearing a face mask when entering public indoor settings or where it is difficult to maintain physical distancing
- seeking early treatment for COVID-19 for high-risk individuals who have tested positive
- maintaining good hand and respiratory hygiene
- getting tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms
- staying home if you're unwell, even if you test negative to COVID-19
- staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations

To read the latest ATAGI advice, visit the [Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care website](#) .

Last Updated: July 07 2022