

## ARC COVID-19 vaccine rollout

As the industry body representing over 90% of the beds in the aged residential care (ARC) sector, the NZACA has been directed by the Ministry of Health (MOH) to take a leading role in planning the vaccine rollout for ARC.

To assist with our planning, we will be asking members to complete a survey around the number of authorised and potential vaccinators there are for each facility. Members can expect to receive a link to the survey today. Your responses will be extremely valuable in assisting us to ensure the process runs smoothly and to identify any potential areas of concern. We require one survey to be completed per facility, including for those that are part of a large group.

If your facility does not receive the survey link by COB today, please email [office@nzaca.org.nz](mailto:office@nzaca.org.nz).

## Consent form

We have been sent a draft consent form from the Ministry of Health (MOH) and are seeking confirmation that we can re-format this to better suit our purposes. We are aware that members need to get the consent form to EPOAs as early as possible. However, MOH has informed us that the vaccine will be rolled out to the staff of ARC facilities first (before residents), giving us more time to ensure the consent form is suitable for your purposes. We aim to get the form to you in next week's COVID-19 Vaccine Update.

## Sequencing of the COVID-19 vaccine and then the influenza vaccine

The NZACA and the Ministry of Health have agreed that the COVID-19 vaccine rollout should take precedence over the Influenza Immunisation Programme. Although influenza may be seen as less of a threat with the borders closed, ARC is particularly vulnerable to this disease and staff and residents are still strongly advised to have the influenza vaccine. The influenza vaccine cannot be administered until at least 14 days after the second dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

## Privacy issues

We are aware that some DHBs are asking managers to provide personal information on their staff, for example, date of birth, NHI number, phone and email details. We have been discussing this with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and also the Privacy Officer in the COVID-19 Directorate of the Ministry of Health. The information being requested will be placed on the COVID-19 Immunisation Register (CIR).

The Ministry of Health has circulated guidance to the DHBs around the how to collect this information: [Short Privacy Statement for DHBs](#) and has also provided a webpage for further information: [COVID-19: Your privacy when getting vaccinated | Ministry of Health NZ](#).

## Workforce

*Vaccinators:* Do you have any current or former staff who could become vaccinators for your facility (if they aren't already)? If so, they need to register their interest [here](#).

*Support and administration:* We are still gathering information on the preparation and administration of the vaccine and how many staff, what roles and what training will be required of them. We will update you as we find out more.

## COVID-19 Immunisation Register (CIR)

We have been advised that each vaccinator/administrator will need their own individual work email addresses to use the CIR. That means that you are not able to use a practice-wide email address such as 'nurses@'. This is because important information such as login credentials and password reset are communicated via email so shared email addresses won't work.

If your vaccinators or potential vaccinators do not have their own work email address as yet, you will need to talk to your IT provider to set one up for each individual vaccinator. We recommend doing so now in advance of the training.

We aim to provide you with the most up-to-date information. We are however, working in an ever-moving environment which means information and advice can change rapidly.

## Vaccine webinars

The Immunisation Advisory Centre (IMAC) is hosting a range of webinars and weekly drop-in online Q&A sessions to share what they know on COVID-19 vaccines and the rollout with health professionals. Upcoming topics include:

- How the Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty) vaccine works and what we know about its safety.
- COVID-19 vaccines for special groups.
- Engaging with the vaccine hesitant.
- Adverse events following immunisation: recognising and understanding anaphylaxis and the reporting process.

Find out more and register at [www.immune.org.nz/webinars](http://www.immune.org.nz/webinars).

## MOH vaccine education campaign

The COVID-19 vaccination campaign kicked off last weekend with full page ads in all major daily newspapers. During the next two weeks full page ads will feature in all community newspapers. Radio advertising has also been developed and is beginning to air this week this week, with iwi and Pacific radio stations coming online next week. A copy of the first ad is shown below.

**Strength in numbers**

How we're rolling out the COVID-19 vaccine

We have secured enough doses of the Pfizer vaccine for everyone 16 years and over in Aotearoa. Any vaccine's strength is in numbers. The more of us who get vaccinated, the stronger and safer we'll all be. It will give us more freedom in our daily lives, and more options for our whānau, our businesses and our country. Because when we roll up our own sleeves, we're helping to protect all of us.

**Here are the key facts about the Pfizer vaccine:**

- It's safe**  
It has been approved by our own Medsafe experts. It's also already been used successfully all around the world by millions of people, and by thousands here in New Zealand too.
- It's effective**  
The Pfizer vaccine is 95% effective when you receive both doses.
- It's free**  
The vaccine will be free for everyone in the country. We have secured over 10 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine. That's enough for all of New Zealand.

**New Zealand's vaccination rollout plan**

The rollout plan for the Pfizer vaccine is simple. Everyone in the country aged 16 and over falls into one of four groups. Firstly, we'll protect those most at risk of picking up the virus in their workplaces - and then those most at risk of getting seriously ill or dying from COVID-19.

**ROLLOUT PLAN:**

- NOW** Group 1: Border and HQ workers
- FROM MARCH** Group 2: Frontline workers and people in high-risk areas
- FROM MAY** Group 3: 65+ and people with underlying health conditions or disabilities
- FROM JULY** Group 4: Everyone else aged 16 and over

**More strength. More freedom. More options.**

We'll let you know when it's your turn for the vaccine. Until then, please keep using the NZ COVID Tracer app, and stay home if you're sick.

[Covid19.govt.nz/vaccine](http://Covid19.govt.nz/vaccine)  
New Zealand Government

**Unite against COVID-19**

## Vaccine information from the Ministry of Health

### COVID-19 Vaccine Update #5 17 March 2021

[VIEW HERE](#)

#### Getting a vaccine

- *Who can get a vaccine*
- *When you'll get a vaccine*
- *What vaccines are available*
- *How vaccines work*
- *Impact of the vaccine on our borders*

[VISIT PAGE](#)

[<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-getting-vaccine>]

#### Vaccine safety and approval

- *Making sure the vaccines are safe*
- *Provisional approval of vaccines*
- *How the vaccines were created so fast*
- *Side effects from the vaccines*
- *Effectiveness of the vaccines*
- *Streamlining the approval process*
- *If the vaccines contain new organisms*

[VISIT PAGE](#)

[<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-safety-and-approval>]

#### COVID-19: Vaccine resources

Visit this page to download useful resources and information sheets on COVID-19 vaccine and the roll-out programme. These are available in multiple languages.

[VISIT PAGE](#)

[<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-resources>]

#### Vaccines

An extensive list of vaccine resources.

[VISIT PAGE](#)

[<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines>]

Any queries relating to the COVID-19 vaccine can be directed to

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