

## ARC COVID-19 vaccine rollout

More than 66,000 Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in New Zealand to date, with over 14,000 people having received their second dose to be fully vaccinated.

We are aware that a few members have already had the vaccine rolled out onsite to their staff and several DHBs, notably Nelson and Southern, are administering vaccines to members' staff at local vaccination clinics. If you haven't already, you should expect to hear from your DHB shortly after Easter weekend to arrange for the first dose of staff vaccinations. DHBs are now moving rapidly on the rollout of the first dose so please be ready with numbers of staff and residents planning to receive vaccines. DHBs are likely to ask for final numbers the day before the vaccinations take place.

Earlier this week the NZACA, in conjunction with the DHB Health of Older Peoples (HOPs) portfolio managers and Senior Responsibility Officers (SROs), presented its paper to the Ministry of Health (MOH) outlining the desired national approach to the COVID-19 vaccine rollout for aged residential care (ARC) facilities.

The preference is for a mixed model service delivery approach for ARC, meaning that two or more delivery models could be operating to reflect the particular needs of the diverse range of facilities (e.g., Outreach teams, Primary care providers and / or ARC provider themselves delivering vaccinations). Vaccination services into aged care will be coordinated and commissioned by DHBs across the ARC facilities in their regions.

## Consent forms

### *Residents*

The NZACA's [consent form for resident vaccinations](#) was provided to members last week. If you haven't done so already, now is the time to begin the process of gaining consent from residents with an Enduring Power of Attorney (EPOA). The consent form needs to be printed (2 pages double-sided, black and white is sufficient) for each resident. Residents able to consent for themselves

can do so on the day of vaccination. Residents and staff also need to be provided with the following documents prior to vaccination:

- [Getting your COVID-19 vaccine: what to expect](#)
- [After your immunisation](#)
- [Privacy statement](#)

### *Staff*

We have received a number of member queries around the need to know the vaccine status of their employees. Everyone who receives the vaccine will be given a Vaccine Record Card. The NZACA advises that you ask your employees to show you this card. Employees will be given a consent form by their vaccinator to sign at the time of vaccination so we will not be circulating a consent form for staff at this time.

## Introductory Guide to the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

The Immunisation Advisory Centre (IMAC) has released a general interest course designed for health professionals that provides information about the mRNA-CV COVID-19 vaccine.

There is no assessment or certificate provided—this is for general interest only. If you are nominated by your DHB to administer the COVID-19 vaccine you need to complete the COVID-19 Vaccinator Education Course, to which the introductory guide is a non-mandatory prelude.

[Click here to access the Introductory Guide to the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme.](#)

Section 4 of the Introductory Guide to the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme is a useful resource for answering questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination programme including the following **quick tips to support positive communications**.

- Acknowledge that COVID-19 vaccines have transient but uncomfortable side effects, including a sore arm and fever. These do in fact show that the vaccine is helping prepare the body to fight the disease!

- Likewise, acknowledge that these vaccines have been manufactured faster than previous vaccines before listing off reasons why this has been the case.
- If somebody shows vaccine hesitance or ambivalence, be empathetic and acknowledge their concerns. The objective of any conversation should be to build trust and rapport. Active listening fosters receptivity.

### Vaccines in the media

To encourage up-take of the vaccine, [Ministers Chris Hipkins and Dr Ayesha Verrall received their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine yesterday](#). Other MPs and officials will be vaccinated in the coming weeks.

### Clinical and general resources

- The Goodfellow Unit delivers continuing professional development for primary healthcare professionals and has just published this excellent webinar with Dr Nikki Turner, Director of the Immunisation Advisory Centre, in which she discusses the COVID-19 vaccine and New Zealand’s vaccination strategy <https://www.goodfellowunit.org/events/covid-19-vaccines>
- The Immunisation Handbook 2020 provides clinical guidelines for health professionals on the safest and most effective use of vaccines in their practice. A chapter on the COVID-19 vaccine can be found [here](#).
- The Immunisation Advisory Centre (IMAC) offers answers to key questions on vaccinator training and vaccine delivery [here](#).
- The app Āwhina lets you access information from the Ministry of Health and other trusted sources on your mobile device and sends out notifications on key COVID-19 vaccine announcements. You can download Āwhina [here](#).
- The MOH [COVID-19 Vaccine Resources](#) page is full of useful information, frequently asked questions and also fact sheets in multiple languages.
- Government cyber security agency CERT NZ has published guidance on how to protect your organisation when communicating about the vaccine on [CERT NZ’s website](#).
- [Unite Against COVID-19](#) contains a multitude of resources on the COVID-19 vaccine, including the latest government announcements.

## MOH Vaccine information

### COVID-19 vaccine updates for the health sector

#### VISIT PAGE

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

### 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

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

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

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

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

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

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