

COVID-19 vaccine rollout

As at 4 May 2021, 304,900 Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered - 87,297 people have received their second dose and are now fully vaccinated. Further data and statistics about the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines in New Zealand can be found [here](#).

How is the vaccine rollout to ARC tracking?

Thanks to everyone who sent through information on how the rollout is going for their facility. Please keep this information coming. Have you heard from your DHB yet? Do you have dates for staff and resident vaccinations? How many have already been vaccinated? Are any of your staff hesitant to have the vaccine? Please drop Kathryn a line with your update: kathryn@nzaca.org.nz.

Workforce and training

The [Immunisation Advisory Centre \(IMAC\)](#) continues to support vaccinators and the healthcare workforce with training and information to administer COVID-19 vaccines in New Zealand. Standalone education modules for healthcare workers with a range of responsibilities that support vaccinators and the programme roll out will be available in the near future. The modules include:

- » Introduction to immunisation
- » Immunisation communication
- » Vaccine storage and management
- » Post-vaccination observation and safety

COVID-19 vaccination webinars

IMAC is hosting a range of webinars and drop-in online Q&A sessions to share what they know on COVID-19 vaccines and the rollout.

- » 6 May – Vaccinator workforce and programme delivery update
- » 11 May – Vaccination administration: Review of current practice and opportunity for questions

Visit [IMAC COVID-19 News & Insights](#) to register for future webinars and replay past webinars.

Debunking COVID vaccine myths

Dr Helen Petousis-Harris, one of New Zealand's leading experts on vaccinations, has penned a great article addressing eight myths about the COVID-19 vaccine. Read the article on Newsroom, [here](#).

Adverse events reporting

Medsafe has published its weekly summary of Adverse Events Following Immunisation (AEFI) with COVID-19 vaccines - [Safety Report #5 - 3 April 2021](#) (published 5 May). An AEFI is an untoward medical event which follows immunisation and does not necessarily have a causal relationship with the administration of the vaccine. There were 203 new non-serious and 7 new serious cases reported since the last update, 6 of which were allergic reactions and were managed appropriately.

Ministry of Health vaccine resources:

COVID-19 vaccine: your questions answered is a good resource from the Ministry of Health answering some of the questions we have been receiving queries about over recent weeks.

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[<https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/covid-19-vaccine-your-questions-answered-13042021.pdf>]

Further information on the vaccine and its rollout can be found in the document COVID-19 vaccine: Protecting Aotearoa. This includes information on the safety of the vaccine.

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[<https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/covid-19-protecting-aotearoa-23032021.pdf>]

COVID-19: Vaccine resources contains useful resources and information sheets on the COVID-19 vaccine and the rollout programme.

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

Any queries relating to this update can be directed to Kathryn Maloney, NZACA's Principal Policy Analyst at kathryn@nzaca.org.nz or 04 473 3159.