

Information Sheet

COVID-19 Vaccinations

The Tasmanian and Australian Governments are working together to give safe COVID-19 vaccination to the community. Tasmanians aged five and over can get vaccinated for free. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine protects you from getting very sick or even dying from COVID-19. Getting vaccinated also helps protect people around you by slowing the spread of the virus.

Choices and Consent

Before having a vaccine, you need to provide your consent. To help you make this choice it is important to have access to information about the risks and benefits for your own situation.

Some workers are required to be vaccinated due to the type of work they do e.g. health workers. Some people might be required to show proof of vaccination to enter businesses or events. Some people may not be able to be vaccinated because of their health conditions. Here are some resources that could help inform your decision.

- » ACD broadcast a [live Q&A regarding COVID 19 vaccinations for children age 5-11](#).
- » The Australian Government has provided a [series of factsheets in easy read format on COVID-19 vaccinations](#).
- » ABC network published a video – [“I’m vaccinated. Now am I safe”](#).
- » The Victorian Public Advocate has created a [video on supporting consent and COVID-19 vaccines](#).
- » The National Coronavirus Helpline can assist people with disability, their family, friends and carers with information about COVID-19 or COVID-19 vaccines. Call 1800 020 080 and select option 5. People with disability can also access support through the Disability Gateway website or by calling 1800 643 787.

How to get vaccinated

- » You can [book a vaccination appointment](#) for anyone aged 5 and over. If you are looking for a vaccination for anyone aged 12 and over, you can also speak with your GP or local pharmacist to see if they are able to provide a vaccination appointment.

- » Some GPs and pharmacists offer a home-visiting service for COVID-19 vaccination. The only way to find out if your GP or pharmacist is offering this service is to ask them directly. There aren't any lists available of GPs and pharmacists providing this service.
- » Autism Tasmania has joined with Public Health Tasmania to provide people with advice about accessing vaccinations. You can have an experienced nurse from Public Health call you to make a plan for how to get a vaccination. If you would like to access this service, please contact our [Advisory Service here](#) or by calling 03 6722 5000.
- » If you've tried to get vaccinated against COVID-19 through clinics, GPs or pharmacists and it's still been too challenging for you, there may be another pathway. Speak to your GP as they may be able to refer you to a specialist service. Currently Royal Hobart Hospital is providing a specialist pathway for 5 to 18-year-old Paediatric Outpatients. There are discussions about a similar pathway for adults. Your GP will need to refer you to this service.

Social Scripts & Resources to help make getting a vaccine easier

- » Amaze has created a [range of social scripts](#) about getting a vaccination.
- » Scope has a [social script on vaccination](#).
- » The Melbourne Vaccination Education Centre has [resources on needle phobia](#).
- » There are lots of reasons why some Autistic people find it difficult to get vaccinated. Autism Tasmania created a [brief webinar](#) about what some Autistic people may find challenging and some ideas on how to address these challenges.