

ATAGI (Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization)

Advice on COVID-19 Vaccination

January 2024

All adults should have a primary course of COVID vaccination:

- First Dose – hopefully done in 2021 when the vaccine became available
- Second Dose – 2 months after first dose

Booster doses are recommended as follows:

- Third Dose – everyone aged 65 or over (hopefully done in 2022)
- Fourth Dose - (2023 vaccine) – everyone aged 65 and over (hopefully done in 2023)
- Fifth Dose (2023 vaccine) is recommended for those 75 and over and should be considered for those 65-74 years old (six months after 4th dose or 6 months after any COVID infection)

It is expected that regular annual or six-monthly doses will be recommended for those 65 years and over for the next year or even longer, depending on the developing situation with COVID-19 in Australia and the world generally.

Recommendations for 2024 vaccinations for COVID and Influenza are awaited at the time of this report (10th February 2024)

Extra doses may be required for those at higher risk due to medical illnesses or conditions affecting a person's immune system and specific advice from your GP is needed here.

Some people with pre-existing Respiratory Conditions should have the new vaccine against Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) which causes 'common cold' symptoms in adults and bronchiolitis in babies and more severe respiratory illness in this group.

Some club members have had 5 doses of COVID vaccine at this point. If you have had only 2 or 3, you are behind and need another dose of COVID vaccine!

Mark Oakley

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