



Notice: School Immunisation Program & COVID-19 Vaccination

Please find information below from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) regarding clinical guidance on the use of COVID-19 vaccine in Australia in 2021 and timing of administration of other vaccines – version 7.0, issued 19 August 2021. The information below was sourced directly from the <u>Australian Government Department of Health</u> on 2 September 2021.

Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) Clinical guidance on use of COVID-19 vaccine in Australia in 2021 (v7.0) 19 August 2021

Timing of administration of other vaccines, including influenza vaccine (page 15 & 16)

The preferred minimum interval between receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine and any other vaccine, including influenza vaccine, is 7 days. A shorter interval (i.e., less than 7 days, including coadministration) is acceptable in the following settings:

- Increased risk of COVID-19 or another vaccine-preventable disease (e.g., COVID-19 outbreak, influenza outbreak, tetanus-prone wound)
- Logistical issues e.g., difficulty scheduling visits to maintain the 7-day interval

This also means that a person may be able to receive another vaccine in between their two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, if appropriate.

As with any other vaccine, vaccination should be deferred if the recipient is acutely unwell. If a person experiences a short term expected adverse event such as fever following vaccination, other vaccines should not be administered until the adverse event has resolved.

Co-administration or near administration (e.g., within days) of two or more vaccines can sometimes lead to a higher frequency of mild to moderate adverse events or make the attribution of potential adverse events to vaccination more challenging.

This advice is based on the current absence of data on the immunogenicity and safety of these vaccines when co-administered and may change as further information becomes available.

If co-administration of an influenza vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine occurs, revaccination is not required for either vaccine. The patient should be informed of the possibility of an increased likelihood of common adverse effects and be asked to report any untoward adverse events.

If complying with this guidance affects your existing clinic booking for School Immunisation, please contact Ozcare School-based Immunisation Administration.