



Queensland Health

Dear Colleagues

I am writing to advise of an upcoming change to the Queensland COVID-19 vaccination program.

As of 18 September, Queenslanders aged 60 years and over (60+) will be eligible for the Pfizer (Comirnaty) vaccine at any Queensland Health community vaccination location. This brings Queensland in line with other states and territories including South Australia, the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

This decision has been made as a result of a boost in supplies of Pfizer Comirnaty and in response to ongoing requests from individuals aged 60+ for vaccine choice. Further, the ongoing Delta outbreaks in southern states pose an imminent risk to Queensland and as such we need to get as many Queenslanders vaccinated as soon as possible.

As people aged 60+ are more likely to suffer severe illness or even death from COVID-19 than younger people, it is very important they get vaccinated at their first opportunity. We hope this decision will encourage more people in this age group to get vaccinated as quickly as possible.

However, I understand this change may create confusion in the primary care setting given the vaccine recommendation for over 60s from the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) have not changed. Queensland Health would like to assure you that we have been advised by the Australian Government Department of Health that advice has been provided from some time now through the provider Bulletin and it will be resent again this week:

### State and territory eligibility

The National COVID Vaccine Taskforce (Taskforce) is aware that some jurisdictions have expanded their eligibility further than the national eligibility criteria. To simplify eligibility, if you have capacity and available stock you can take additional bookings based on state and territory eligibility criteria. This includes those jurisdictions that have opened up Pfizer/Moderna eligibility to people 60 years and over.

However, Phase 1 populations (such as aged care and disability care residents/workers, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 12 and over, health care workers and individuals with underlying conditions) should still be prioritised for COVID-19 vaccinations.

For more information please contact your local Primary Health Network.

Should you not wish to vaccinate 60+ age group with Pfizer Comirnaty, your patients can register their interest to get vaccinated at a Queensland Health community vaccination location at this website: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/vaccinebookings>. They will be sent

an invitation to book an appointment in their area as more appointments become available.

As previously advised, it is still the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommendation that anyone aged 60+ who has already had a first dose of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria) without any serious adverse events should have their second dose of Vaxzevria. Heterologous (mixed) brand schedules are still not recommended unless for very specific medical reasons. Individuals require two doses of the same vaccine to be properly vaccinated.

For further clinical advice, please visit our COVID-19 vaccination information for healthcare workers page available on the Queensland Health website. For information for your patients please visit [www.qld.gov.au/covid19vaccine](http://www.qld.gov.au/covid19vaccine).

Yours sincerely

Ms Bronwyn Nardi  
**State Director,**  
**COVID-19 Vaccination Taskforce**  
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