

# COVID Vaccination - for Entry

## POLICY

As at 1/11/21

Soon, all people aged 12 and over will need to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, to enter the clinic premises.

**The exemptions from this policy** are:

1. Life threatening medical emergencies
2. Children aged 11 and under (we require advance notice if the child has respiratory symptoms)
3. Patients attending for COVID vaccinations, and
4. Adults unable to be vaccinated for medical reasons (we require documented evidence of the exemption prior 24 hours before attendance. We will, at our sole discretion, determine if the exemption is valid)

**If you choose not to be vaccinated for COVID, we respect your decision** - you can book a phone consultation instead. If you absolutely need to be seen face-to-face (to be approved by your GP), you will simply need to arrange a COVID test (rapid antigen test or PCR nasal swab) and provide a negative test result on arrival (dated within 48 hours of your appointment).

By booking an appointment at the clinic, you agree to us confirming your vaccination status on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

**This policy is an essential element of our Risk Management** approach. The reason we only allow (see exemptions above) fully COVID-vaccinated patients within the clinic, is because the illness 'viral load' will be lower, and hence the risk to the staff and other patients will also be lower. We are in the business of providing health care to all, and so accordingly, if there are genuine reasons for a patient to not be vaccinated, we provide exceptions to deal with that. We believe that if someone *chooses* not to be vaccinated, then that's their choice (and we'll make arrangements for them), but it's not the choice of the person they may sit next to nor the choice of the doctors, nurses or administrative staff.

Please see the following page for frequently asked questions.

If you still require further information, you are welcome to schedule a phone consultation with your GP.

Thank you for your compliance and understanding.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **1. What if I am not vaccinated against COVID-19?**

You can still access phone consultations with with the GP. If you or the GP requires a face-to-face consultation, you will need to arrange a COVID test (rapid antigen test or PCR nasal swab) and provide a negative test result within 48 hours of the appointment. We may be able to do the rapid antigen test on site just prior to your appointment - please call to enquire.

## **2. I have received both doses but they don't show on my vaccination record?**

You will need to contact your vaccination provider and have them update your records.

## **3. What if I have a medical exemption?**

People with medical exemptions will need to provide documentation before their appointment. The exemption will need to be approved by the clinic before your arrival.

## **4. What If I've only had one COVID-19 vaccination?**

We will see patients who have only received one COVID-19 vaccine face-to-face for a period of time. After this date, only fully vaccinated patients will be seen. This is yet to be confirmed.

## **5. Is my child who is not yet eligible to be vaccinated able to come to the clinic?**

Children under the age of 12 can still attend the clinic. If they have respiratory symptoms (cough, fever, sore throat, runny nose), we require advance notice before you attend.

## **6. I don't have access to a computer or smartphone. How do I obtain proof of full COVID-19 vaccination?**

If you have received both COVID-19 vaccines but don't have access to a smartphone or computer, please call reception. They will download a copy of your record and make a note on your file.