YOUR DOCTOR

Dear patient,

You have been identified as eligible to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine, at Your Doctor.

Your Doctor is participating in Phase 1a, 1b & 2a of the national COVID-19 vaccine roll-out. They now receive a small weekly allocation of COVID-19 vaccine doses, and are able to offer a COVID-19 vaccine to *some* of the eligible groups specified by the government.

What is COVID-19?
COVID-19 is a disease that is caused by a virus. Any person of any age can contract COVID-19. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever and cough, however the elderly or those with certain medical conditions can experience more serious symptoms.

How does the COVID-19 vaccine work?
The COVID-19 vaccine helps our body develop immunity to the virus that causes the COVID-19 disease, without us having to get the illness. After being vaccinated, the body is left with a supply of 'memory' that will remember how to fight that virus in the future. The more people that get vaccinated, the less likely the disease will spread, leading to reduced illnesses and/or deaths. The COVID-19 vaccine is given in a two-dose schedule, meaning you will need to visit a vaccinator on two separate occasions, to be fully vaccinated.

When can I get the 1st and 2nd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine?
The 1st dose is now available at Your Doctor. The recommended interval between the two doses of COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca is approximately 12 weeks. COVID-19 vaccine appointments are only available at Your Doctor on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

What does the COVID-19 vaccine cost?
To encourage maximum vaccination, the government has deemed it mandatory that there be no out-of-pocket cost for the patient to get vaccinated against COVID-19, hence the vaccine and accompanying consultation is free-of-charge at Your Doctor.

COVID-19, Influenza/Flu, and other vaccines.
It is not recommended that you get the COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as any other vaccine, including the 2021 Influenza/Flu vaccine. The preferred minimum interval between receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine and any other vaccine is 14 days.

How to get vaccinated against COVID-19?

Find out how to get vaccinated against COVID-19 on the following page.

173 High Street, Berwick, 3806 P 9707 3999 F 9707 3344 E info@yourdoctor.com.au

YOUR DOCTOR

How to get vaccinated against COVID-19

1. **Eligibility:** Before making your appointments (1st and 2nd dose, separately), ensure that you are *definitely* eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, by visiting covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au. If you are not eligible, you will *not* be given the vaccine during your appointment at Your Doctor.

2. **Book:** If you *are* eligible, call 9707-3999, let our friendly receptionists know that you have received a recall notice to get the COVID-19 vaccine, and they will schedule your appointment. Make sure that you book in for *both doses* of the vaccine, to ensure that you don't miss out.

3. **Information & Consent:** Read the attached information (Consent Form for COVID-19 Vaccination) provided by the Australian Government before attending your first appointment. If you have any further queries about the vaccine, you will need to book an appointment with your GP, *prior* to your injection. Standard consultation fees and rebates will apply.

4. **Vaccination:** When you arrive for your appointments, **do not enter the clinic before calling 0482-987-806**. You will be screened for COVID-19 and then provided with next steps to enter and be vaccinated.

About your appointments.
To ensure we are able to vaccinate as many of our patients as possible against COVID-19, your appointment will be with our Nurse Immuniser only. If you need to see your GP, or to discuss any other health issue(s), you will be required to book a separate standard appointment.

Please note:
You *may* receive a phone call from our Nurse Immuniser, prior to your appointment, if there is any need for more, or clarification of information from you, such as uncertainty around your eligibility, whether you may or may not have had the COVID-19 or any other vaccination, etc.

Want more information?

The Australian Government Department of Heath website provides a wide array of **COVID-19 vaccination-related information** including but not limited to**:**

- 'ATAGI clinical guidance on COVID-19 vaccine in Australia in 2021' page https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccination-atagi-clinical-guidance-on-covid-19-vaccine-in-australia-in-2021
- 'Preparing for COVID-19 vaccination' page https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccination-preparing-for-covid-19-vaccination
- 'COVID-19 vaccination decision guide for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or planning pregnancy' page https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccination-covid-19-vaccination-decision-guide-for-women-who-are-pregnant-breastfeeding-or-planning-pregnancy
- 'Consent form for COVID-19 vaccination' page https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccination-consent-form-for-covid-19-vaccination
- 'After your AstraZeneca vaccine' page https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccination-after-your-astrazeneca-vaccine
- 'Weighing up the potential benefits against risk of harm from COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca' page https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2021/04/covid-19-vaccination-weighing-up-the-potential-benefits-against-risk-of-harm-from-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca_0.pdf

Alternatively, you are welcome to book an appointment with your GP at Your Doctor, to discuss the COVID-19 vaccination, or anything else, in person. Standard consultation fees and rebates will apply.

173 High Street, Berwick, 3806 P 9707 3999 F 9707 3344 E info@yourdoctor.com.au

Australian Government

COVID-19 VACCINATION

Consent form for COVID-19 vaccination

Before completing this form make sure you have read the information sheet on the vaccine you will be receiving, either COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca or Comirnaty (Pfizer).

About COVID-19 vaccination

People who have a COVID-19 vaccination have a much lower chance of getting sick from the disease called COVID-19.

There are two brands of vaccine in use in Australia. Both are effective and safe. For adults aged under 50 years either brand may be used, however Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine is preferred over AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine.

You need to have two doses of the same brand of vaccine. The person giving you your vaccination will tell you when you need to have the second vaccination.

Medical experts have studied COVID-19 vaccines to make sure they are safe. Most side effects are mild. They may start on the day of vaccination and last for around 1-2 days. As with any vaccine or medicine, there may be rare and/or unknown side effects.

A very rare side effect of blood clotting has been reported in the 4-20 days after the first dose of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. This is not seen after the second dose of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine or after any dose of Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine. For further information on the risk of this rare condition refer to the 'Information on COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca' fact sheet.

You can tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects like a sore arm, headache, fever, or any other side effect you are worried about. You may be contacted by SMS within the week after receiving the vaccine to see how you are feeling after vaccination.

Some people may still get COVID-19 after vaccination. So you must still follow public health precautions as required in your state or territory to stop the spread of COVID-19 including:

- keep your distance – stay at least 1.5 metres away from other people
- washing your hands often with soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
- wear a mask
- stay home if you are unwell with cold or flu-like symptoms, and arrange to get a COVID-19 test.

Name:												
Medicare number:												

Vaccination providers record all vaccinations on the Australian Immunisation Register, as required by Australian law. You can view your vaccination record online through your:

- Medicare account
- MyGov account
- MyHealthRecord account.

How the information you provide is used

For information on how your personal details are collected, stored and used visit https://www.health.gov.au/covid19-vaccines.

On the day you receive your vaccine

Before you get vaccinated, tell the person giving you the vaccination if you:

- Have had an allergic reaction, particularly anaphylaxis (a severe allergic reaction) to a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, to an ingredient of a COVID-19 vaccine, or to other vaccines or medications.
- If you are immunocompromised. This means that you have a weakened immune system that may make it harder for you to fight infections and other diseases.
- If you have a past history of cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (a type of brain clot) or heparin induced thrombocytopenia (a rare reaction to heparin treatment)

Yes	No	
☐	☐	Do you have any serious allergies, particularly anaphylaxis, to anything?
☐	☐	Have you had an allergic reaction after being vaccinated before?
☐	☐	Do you have a mast cell disorder?
☐	☐	Have you had COVID-19 before?
☐	☐	Do you have a bleeding disorder?
☐	☐	Do you take any medicine to thin your blood (an anticoagulant therapy)?
☐	☐	Do you have a weakened immune system (immunocompromised)?
☐	☐	Are you pregnant?
☐	☐	Have you been sick with a cough, sore throat, fever or are feeling sick in another way?
☐	☐	Have you had a COVID-19 vaccination before?
☐	☐	Have you received any other vaccination in the last 14 days?
		Relevant for AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine only:*
☐	☐	Have you had cerebral venous sinus thrombosis in the past?
☐	☐	Have you had heparin-induced thrombocytopenia in the past?
☐	☐	Are you under 50 years of age?

* AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine is suitable for people in these three categories if they have assessed their benefits and risks. For more information refer to the: 'Information on COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca' fact sheet

Name:												
Medicare number:												