

COVID-19 Vaccines in Australia

The table below provides key differences between each COVID-19 vaccine approved for use in Australia.

	Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca)	Comirnaty (Pfizer)	Spikevax (Moderna)
Vaccine type	Viral vector	mRNA (nucleic acid)	mRNA (nucleic acid)
Dose volume	0.5ml	0.3ml	0.5ml
Doses per vial	10	6	10
Dilution required	No	Yes	No
Recommended dose interval	12 weeks	21 days	28 days
Approved dose interval	4 to 12 weeks	3 to 6 weeks	4 to 6 weeks
Approved age	18 years and older	12 years and older	12 years and older
Third dose (as part of primary course for severe immunocompromise)	Not preferred	Preferred for a third dose	Preferred for a third dose
Booster dose	Not preferred	Yes	No
Storage temperature for unopened vials	2°C to 8°C (6 months)	2°C to 8°C (31 days) -15°C to -25°C (2 weeks) -60°C to -90°C (9 months)	2°C to 8°C (30 days) -15°C to -25°C (7 months)
Storage time for open vials	6 hours (up to 30°C) 48 hours (2°C to 8°C)	6 hours (up to 30°C)	6 hours* (up to 25°C)
Transport limitations	Nil	12 hours thawed	12 hours thawed

* Stable for 19 hours up to 25°C. The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommends cumulative storage time of opened vials should not exceed 6 hours to reduce risk of infection.