

## 1 July 2022 - Recent ATAGI Considerations | Vaccine Operations Centre (VOC) Update | Reminders

Dear Service Provider,

This email provides information from the COVID-19 Taskforce (Taskforce) about a range of matters relevant to participating pharmacies in the COVID-19 Vaccination in Community Pharmacy (CVCP) Program, as follows:

- Recent ATAGI Considerations
- Vaccine Operations Centre (VOC) Update
- Reminders.

### Recent ATAGI Considerations

#### Novavax Boosters

- Following the TGA's provisional approval on 9 June 2022 of Nuvaxovid (Novavax) COVID-19 vaccine for use as a booster dose in people aged 18 years and older, [ATAGI have updated their clinical guidance](#)
- While mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) remain the preferred COVID-19 vaccines for use as a booster dose in people aged 18 years and older, Novavax can be used as a booster dose in the following circumstances:
  - People who have a contraindication to mRNA vaccines (including those who have had a serious adverse event following mRNA vaccines, e.g., a history of anaphylaxis or myocarditis attributed to an mRNA vaccine)
  - People who do not prefer an mRNA vaccine

The following additional resources have also been updated to reflect this advice:

- [Novavax patient information sheet](#)
- [After your Novavax vaccination patient information sheet](#)
- [Vaccination consent form](#)
- [ATAGI recommendations on the use of a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine](#)



## **Vaccine Operations Centre (VOC) Update**

### **Tell Us What You Think - VOC Operating Hours**

- Since the COVID-19 Vaccine rollout commenced in February 2021, the Vaccine Operations Centre (VOC) has been operating from 7am through till late, 7 days a week
- With a reduction in calls to the VOC between 7am-9am and on weekends, especially Sundays, the Taskforce is proposing the following changes to VOC operating hours:
  - 8:30am - 8pm AEST Monday - Thursday
  - 8:30am - 9pm AEST Friday
  - 8:30am - 7pm AEST Saturday
  - **CLOSED Sunday**
- Please advise if, and why, the proposed VOC operating hours would not suit your needs by using this link  
[https://healthau.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1HrAofLQjQ6yjdA](https://healthau.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1HrAofLQjQ6yjdA)
- The short survey will take a few minutes to complete and will help inform any recommendations to vary VOC operating hours
- **Comments close COB Wednesday 6 July 2022.**

## **Reminders**

### **Vaccination post COVID-19 Infection**

- In April 2022, ATAGI updated their advice relating to individuals with a past COVID-19 infection. They now recommend all people should wait **3 months** post confirmed infection with COVID-19 before they receive their next scheduled COVID-19 vaccination
- Please be aware, following this 3-month period, the next scheduled COVID-19 dose should be given as soon as possible. The [full advice is available here](#).

### **Winter Booster Dose Eligibility**

On 24 May 2022, ATAGI expanded their recommendation on winter COVID-19 booster doses to include people at increased risk of severe COVID-19 infection. [Please see the ATAGI statement available here](#). A table including examples of immunocompromising medical conditions can be found within the ATAGI statement

Kind regards,  
Pharmacy Programs Administrator