

24 October 2022 - ATAGI Update - Booster Dose of Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine in Children Aged 5-11 Years

Dear Pharmacy,

This email provides information from the COVID-19 Taskforce (Taskforce) about a booster dose of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in children aged 5-11 years.

ATAGI Update - Booster Dose of Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine in Children Aged 5-11 Years

- The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) [recommends](#) that a booster dose of the Pfizer 5-11 (Orange) (10mcg, ancestral strain) may be given to the following children aged 5-11 years who have completed a primary course of vaccination 3 or more months ago:
 - those who are [severely immunocompromised](#)
 - those who have a disability with significant or complex health needs
 - those who have complex and/or multiple health conditions that increase the risk of severe COVID-19.
- ATAGI continues to recommend a 3-month interval between a recent confirmed SARS CoV-2 infection and a scheduled dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- **ATAGI does not recommend that a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine be given to all children aged 5-11 years.**
- ATAGI considers that there is insufficient evidence of severe disease in otherwise healthy children in this age group who have already received two primary doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. ATAGI continues to recommend that all children aged 5-11 years complete a primary vaccine course of 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, 8 weeks apart.
- A [third primary](#) dose from 2 months after dose 2 is recommended for those who are severely immunocompromised.
- The Australian Government has accepted this advice and will include the booster for these population groups in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program from **24 October 2022. All primary care vaccination sites may commence administering the booster doses to the additional groups if they have appointments available.**

Kind regards,

Pharmacy Programs Administrator

