



Patient Information on COVID-19 Vaccine Pfizer

About the vaccine

This vaccine helps to protect people from getting very sick from COVID-19 (coronavirus). The **vaccine cannot give you COVID-19** as it does not contain any live COVID-19 virus.

THIS VACCINE CONTAINS:

- ✔ The active ingredient is mRNA which teaches your body to fight off COVID-19 if you are exposed to it in the future.
- ✔ Fats (called lipids) that help the mRNA get to the right place in your body (cells).
- ✔ Salts and sugars to keep all the ingredients together.

THIS VACCINE DOES NOT CONTAIN:

- ✘ Preservatives
- ✘ Human products
- ✘ Animal products
- ✘ Food, latex or gelatin

BENEFITS

This vaccine is very good at stopping people from getting really sick or dying from COVID-19. It also works well to stop people from getting COVID-19 altogether. It works the best after a person has had 2 doses. After two doses, people have been found to be 95% less likely to get COVID-19 than people who didn't have the vaccine.

SAFETY

Over 100 million people in the world have already had the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. It is known to be safe. It's important to know that blood clotting issues have not been reported with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

Very rare cases of a type of heart inflammation (Pericarditis and Myocarditis) have been observed in small numbers of males under 30 after the 2nd dose of Pfizer. Most cases have been mild and patients have recovered quickly.

All vaccines in Australia are approved by a group of experts called the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) who look very carefully at the research before approving the use of a vaccine.

WHO CAN HAVE IT

Anyone aged 12 years and over. It is the preferred COVID-19 vaccine for people less than 60 years old.

WHO SHOULD NOT HAVE IT

Anyone who has a severe allergic reaction to the first dose of the vaccine or a severe allergic reaction to any component of the vaccine in the past.

HOW MANY DOSES WILL I NEED?

You will need two doses at least 21 days (3 weeks) apart. The vaccine works best after two doses, so remember to come back.

SIDE-EFFECTS

Not everyone will get side-effects after receiving the vaccine. But if you do, these might be:

- Sore, red arm
- Headache
- Body aches
- Feeling feverish
- Feeling tired

These feelings will go away after 1 or 2 days, but if you need to, you can choose to take paracetamol.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Talk to your local clinic for more information.