

## COVID-19 Information for Multicultural LGBTIQ+ Communities

### You'll be protecting yourself and others



When you get fully vaccinated against COVID-19:

- > You're **less likely to catch** COVID-19
- > You're **less likely to spread** COVID-19 to others
- > You're **less likely to get very sick** if you do catch COVID-19
- > You're **helping protect people** who can't get vaccinated for medical reasons

The more people that are vaccinated, the fewer people will catch the virus, spread the virus, get sick or die.

### Are the vaccines **safe?**

All available vaccines in Australia:

- > Are safe and effective
- > Have been tested on large numbers of people internationally
- > Have passed **strict safety standards** set by Australia's independent medicines regulator, the Therapeutic Goods Administration

### You'll be able to get back to everyday life

You may need to be vaccinated to:

- > **Participate in some everyday activities or use some everyday services**
- > **Continue going to work**
- > **Travel overseas**

### Should I wait for a vaccine that isn't currently available in Australia?

There are three vaccines available in Australia – **AstraZeneca**, **Moderna** and **Pfizer**. There's no guarantee that any other vaccines will be approved for use in Australia.

It's best to get one of the currently available vaccines.



## I don't have a Medicare card or I am on a visa – can I get vaccinated?

COVID-19 vaccines are **free for everyone** in Australia, including:

- > Refugees
- > People seeking asylum
- > Temporary and provisional visa holders
- > International students
- > Temporary migrants

You don't need a **Medicare card or an Individual Healthcare Identifier (IHI)** to get a COVID-19 vaccine.



Getting a COVID-19 vaccine will not affect your visa status or eligibility for government payments.

## Is it safe to get vaccinated if:

### I'm on hormone therapy?

Yes, it's safe if you're taking a prescribed form of hormone therapy.

### I'm taking PrEP?

Yes, it's safe if you're taking pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medications.

### I'm on antiretrovirals?

Yes, it's safe if you're taking antiretrovirals.

### I'm taking other medication or have a medical condition?

In many cases, yes. Talk to your doctor or healthcare provider about your vaccination options.



## What can I do if I have a bad experience when I get vaccinated?

You can **make a complaint** to the Victorian Department of Health about any service provided by the department or a service provider funded by the department. This includes public vaccination centres.

## I've had COVID-19 and recovered from it – should I still get vaccinated?

**YES**, you should still get vaccinated after you have recovered from COVID-19.

[cfre.org.au/lgbtiq-covid](https://cfre.org.au/lgbtiq-covid)



The information in this factsheet is current at 29 October 2021.

Information comes from the Victorian Department of Health and the Australian Department of Health. You can get more information about COVID-19 safety and vaccines in other languages from the [Victorian Government website](#) and the [Australian Government website](#).



We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land where we work and pay respects to elders past, present and future.