

The Hon Martin Foley мр Minister for Health Minister for Ambulance Services Minister for Equality



Monday, 11 October 2021

OPEN ACCESS FOR ALL VICTORIANS ABOVE 12 FOR MNRA VACCINES

With Commonwealth vaccine supply now assured and young Victorians setting an incredible pace getting vaccinated, mRNA vaccines Pfizer and Moderna will be available to people of any age through state-run vaccination centres, not just those under 60.

This change – which is now in effect – has been made possible after a boost to Moderna and Pfizer supply, and an extraordinary number of young Victorians stepping up to receive their first dose of the vaccine.

Victoria is well on the way to becoming one of the world's most vaccinated jurisdictions. As of yesterday, 86 per cent of Victorians aged 16 and over had received their first dose – including 93 per cent of people aged 50 and over, more than 95 per cent of people aged 70 and over, and 64 per cent of people aged between 12 and 15.

Victorians 60 and over can book to receive Pfizer or Moderna at any of Victoria's vaccination centres today. All Victorians can also walk-up without a booking to receive the Moderna mRNA vaccine at many state-run vaccination centres – because Victoria's week of walk-up Moderna access is now in place permanently at:

- Sandown Racecourse
- Palm Plaza, Dandenong
- Bayside Centre, Frankston
- Barries Rd, Melton
- Ford Factory, Campbellfield
- Royal Exhibition Building
- MCEC
- Sunshine Hospital
- Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre
- Latrobe Uni, Bundoora
- Eastland Shopping Centre
- Shepparton Showgrounds
- Traralgon Racecourse
- Kiarivu Barracks, Mildura

With Victoria preparing to open retail, restaurants, events and more in time for summer, the Victorian Government has also launched a new campaign to remind everyone that your vaccination is your ticket.

The new vaccination campaign, to run on TVs, radios, print and online, captures the excitement of ordinary Victorians getting back to doing the things we love, like dining, sport, travel, work, and most importantly, seeing family and friends – in a safe way.

As announced as part of Victoria's *Roadmap to Deliver the National Plan* and in order to protect the community and our health system, these freedoms won't apply in the same way to Victorians who aren't vaccinated.

Every unvaccinated Victorian with COVID-19 is far more likely to get seriously unwell, require hospitalisation, or even die – particularly if they are older Victorians. Every unvaccinated Victorian with COVID-19 is far more likely to get seriously unwell, require hospitalisation, or even die – particularly if they are older Victorians.

Victorians can book a state-run centre by visiting <u>www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au</u> or calling 1800 675 398, or through their local GP or pharmacist by visiting <u>covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility</u>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Health Martin Foley

"With all vaccines open to all Victorians aged 12 and over, and plenty of appointments available, there's no reason not to book your jab today."

"Victorians have done their duty by getting vaccinated in extraordinary numbers – and it's those Victorians who will be able to go and do the things they love with the people they love when we reach our targets."