

AstraZeneca Vaccine Information

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AstraZeneca Vaccine

If you are 60+ years of age, protect yourself now

There are many COVID-19 vaccines being used to protect communities around the world. One of these is the AstraZeneca vaccine, the most readily available vaccine in Australia.

AstraZeneca is very effective in preventing serious illness and death from COVID-19.

The risk of COVID-19 for 60+ years of age

People 60+ years of age who contract COVID-19 are at risk of becoming very sick. Most COVID-19 related deaths around the world are in people over 60. Up until April 2021, 99.5% of Australian COVID-19 deaths were in the over 60's age group.

Weighing the risks and benefits of COVID-19 vaccination

You may have heard about an extremely rare blood clotting side effect from the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. These side effects are rare, affecting approximately 4 to 6 people per million. By contrast, among people over 60, the risk of death from COVID-19 is 2 in 100.

The rare side effect is called thrombosis and thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS), and can be very serious. Tests to detect TTS and effective treatments are now available. Symptoms include a bad headache that does not improve with normal pain relief and/or a bad stomach-ache. These symptoms can start 4 to 20 days after vaccination. Anyone experiencing these symptoms 4 to 20 days after their vaccination should go straight to hospital.

Protect yourself now

All vaccines carry a small risk of rare side-effects. However, **you are at much greater risk of serious illness and death from COVID-19 than you are from the side effects of the vaccine.** If you are over 60, you can protect yourself from serious COVID-19 disease and death by getting vaccinated **now**. AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine is readily available.

StarHealth recommends getting vaccinated as soon as possible. If you catch COVID-19 and are over 60, the risk of getting very sick is extremely high. Additional outbreaks in the coming months could very well happen. **Protect yourself, your family and your community today: get vaccinated.**

We can help with vaccination appointments and advice.

Call StarHealth today on 9525 1300 or visit us at www.starhealth.org.au



**COVID-19
VACCINATION**

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