

Moderna vaccine - Factsheet

Last reviewed - 20 September 2021

By getting vaccinated you are helping to keep yourself, your family and your community safe

Moderna protects you against COVID-19

With two doses of the Moderna vaccine, spaced 6 weeks apart, you are more than 90 per cent less likely to get very sick or need to go to hospital with COVID-19. This has been shown in very large clinical trials in people aged 12 years and over.

This high level of protection also applies to new variants of COVID-19, such as the Delta variant.

People eligible for Moderna

Everyone over the age of 12 years is eligible to get the Moderna vaccine.

How to access Moderna

Moderna is currently available primarily through pharmacies, as well as some vaccination centres and pop-up clinics.

You can book an appointment for Moderna through the Vaccine Clinic finder:
covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au

Moderna is safe

The vaccine is safe, free and voluntary.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), which is Australia's medical regulator, has provisionally approved the use of the Moderna vaccine for people aged 12 years and over.

Side effects of Moderna

As with all vaccines, side effects may occur – but these are generally mild and last only for a day or two. Side effects may include:

- pain, redness and/or swelling at site of injection
- tiredness
- muscle aches
- headache
- fever and chills joint pain

Everybody who receives a vaccine will be supervised by a medical professional for 15 minutes after they are vaccinated, to make sure they are ok. If anybody continues to feel unwell after they get vaccinated, they should contact their doctor immediately.

For more information about possible vaccine side effects, visit
[coronavirus.vic.gov.au/cardiac-side-effects-and-covid-19 vaccines](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/cardiac-side-effects-and-covid-19-vaccines)

Moderna vaccine and fertility

Note, there is no scientific evidence that shows getting the COVID-19 vaccine impacts a person's fertility.

None of the COVID-19 vaccines used in Australia cause sterilisation/infertility – this includes Moderna.

The TGA will not approve a vaccine for use in Australia unless it is safe and effective. This includes impacts on fertility.

Who cannot have Moderna

You should not receive the Moderna vaccine if you have had:

- anaphylaxis (a type of severe allergic reaction) to a previous dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (that is, Moderna or Pfizer)
- anaphylaxis after exposure to any component of the vaccine, including polyethylene glycol (PEG)
- myocarditis and/or pericarditis attributed to a previous dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (that is, Moderna or Pfizer)
- any other serious adverse event, that an experienced immunisation provider or medical specialist attributed to a previous dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (i.e. Moderna or Pfizer) and without another cause identified.

If you have any questions about vaccination, the best person to speak with is your doctor.

For more information about the Moderna vaccine, visit :
coronavirus.vic.gov.au/about-moderna-vaccine

You can find out more about COVID-19 at:
www.starhealth.org.au/covid19

Or call StarHealth on **9525 1300**