About the coronavirus vaccination

Information and your consent

Easy English

Hard words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**

- we write what the hard word means.

You can get help with this book

You can get someone to help you

- read this book

- know what this book is about

- find more information.

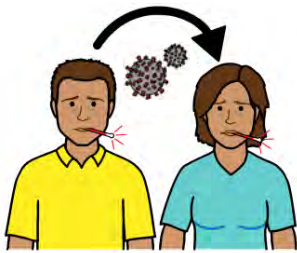# About this book

This book is written by Scope.

This book is about the **coronavirus vaccination**.
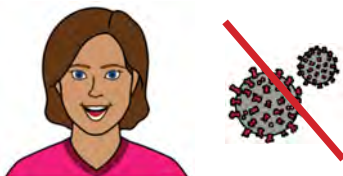
Coronavirus or COVID-19

- can make people very sick

- is spread when you are close to someone else who has coronavirus.

Vaccination is when a **vaccine** is injected into your body.

A vaccine is medicine to

- protect you from a virus

- help you stay well.

Who can get the coronavirus vaccination?

Everyone 16 years and older can get the coronavirus vaccination.

Some people will get the vaccination first.

You might **not** be able to have the vaccination if you have a health problem.

Tell your doctor about all your health problems **before** you get the vaccination.

When you get the coronavirus vaccination it will help keep you and the community safe from coronavirus.
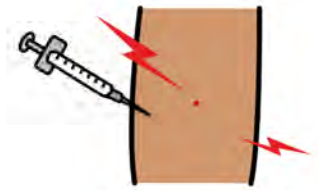
What happens when you get the coronavirus vaccination?

A nurse will use a needle to give you the vaccine.

The needle goes into your arm.

You might feel a small pain when you get the needle.

You might have pain after the needle.
For example, a sore arm.

You might have a mild fever after the needle.

Pain and fever will usually go away.

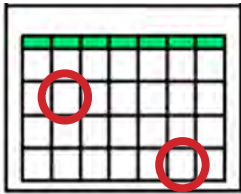If you are worried you can see your doctor.

All vaccinations in Australia are safe.

For the vaccine to work well you need to have it
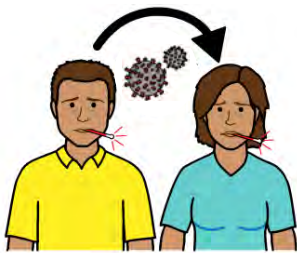
- 2 times

and

- on different days.

The nurse who gives you the vaccination will tell you when you need to have the second needle.

Some people might still get a mild case of coronavirus after they have the vaccination.

What happens at the coronavirus vaccination appointment?

You can bring someone you trust to your vaccination appointment.

For example, your family or a support worker.

A nurse will ask if you give your **consent** to have the vaccination.

Consent means you say **yes** to something.

You can ask questions before you say **yes** or **no**.

You can say **no** to the vaccination.

You can get someone you trust to

- explain the vaccination

- help you decide if you want the vaccination.

For example

- a family member

- an **advocate**

- a **guardian**.

An advocate can help you

- understand information

- say what you want

- make decisions.

A guardian can help you make legal choices.

The nurse will ask some questions about you and your health.

You must tell the nurse if you

- take any medicines

- are pregnant.

You must also tell the nurse your

- name

- date of birth

- Medicare number

- contact details.
  For example, your phone number.

How to make a coronavirus vaccination appointment

To make a vaccination appointment call the Coronavirus Hotline.

1800 675 398

Press 0 if you need an interpreter.

If you or the person you are booking for needs support to get a vaccination you can email a Disability Liaison Officer.

DLOcoordinator@dhhs.vic.gov.au

For a list of vaccination centres go to the state government coronavirus website.

coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-centres

Notes

You can also use a Scope social story and visual script or

Key Word Sign video to help people understand the vaccination.

Email contact@scopeaust.org.au for more information or visit

our website, scopeaust.org.au/about-scope/coronavirus/covid-19-resources/communication-resources-covid-19