

Central Goldfields Shire Council

Frequently asked questions about revaccination program for affected adults

OFFICIAL

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Frequently Asked Questions

Why am I receiving this letter?

In December 2021, a review of Council's Secondary School Immunisation Program found that the temperature of the fridge used to store secondary school and adult vaccines was not appropriately monitored between April 2020 and December 2021.

This means that we cannot confirm that the vaccines administered during this time were stored at the correct temperature in accordance with the manufacturer's product information. Vaccines which are stored at temperatures outside of the optimum range may lose some of their effectiveness.

There is no health risk to you from having received a vaccine during this period. There is however some possibility that the vaccine administered may not have delivered full immunity as intended.

What does this mean for me?

You have received a letter that identifies you have received a vaccination administered between April 2020 and December 2021 through Council's Community Immunisation Program. There is a small risk that the vaccine you received may not have been fully effective. Please discuss if revaccination is necessary with your GP. Alternatively, you can contact SAEFVIC, Victoria's vaccine safety service on 1300 882 924 and choose option 1 to discuss what is best for you.

What vaccines may have been affected?

Vaccines that may have been affected include Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (whooping cough) [Boostrix®] or pneumococcal [Pneumovax23®].

Who does this affect?

There were 11 adults who received vaccines that maybe affected and who require medical advice to determine if revaccination is necessary. People who received the influenza vaccine between April 2020 and December 2021 do not require revaccination. It is recommended people access the 2022 influenza vaccine.

If the vaccine was affected, will it be harmful?

Even vaccines stored outside the recommended temperature range will not cause harm. Any incorrect storage of a vaccine may result in reduced protection against the disease for which it was administered. Before any vaccine is readministered, seek medical advice to determine if revaccination is necessary.

Are there health risks in being given the vaccines again?

No. There are no increased health risks in giving a further dose of vaccine. All vaccines can cause redness, swelling and pain at the injection site and this may occur after revaccination. Before any vaccine is readministered, first speak with your GP to determine what is best for you.

Will my immunisation record be updated?

If you are revaccinated, your immunisation provider will notify the Australian Immunisation Register to update your immunisation history statement.

Will I incur any cost for revaccination?

If the vaccine is given by Central Goldfields Shire Council or another local council, there is no cost to you. If you require revaccination with your GP, there may be an out-of-pocket cost for administering the vaccine.

What if I just had or am shortly due for a COVID-19 vaccine?

If you require revaccination, it can be given at any time before or after the COVID-19 vaccine.

Who can I talk to if I have further questions about revaccination?

For questions about the revaccination program contact Central Goldfields Shire Council Coordinator Immunisation Services, Hannah Castles:

- telephone 0428 894 724
- email immunisation@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au
- Council's website - www.centralgoldfields.vic.gov.au/vaccine

Alternatively, you can obtain further advice when booking your appointment with your local GP or health service.

If you would like to seek expert vaccine advice or a second opinion, contact the Victorian vaccine safety service (SAEFVIC). Please call 1300 882 924 and select option 1 or email enquiries@saefvic.org.au

To receive this document in another format, [email the Immunisation Unit <immunisation@health.vic.gov.au>](mailto:immunisation@health.vic.gov.au).
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