



# COVID-19 Newsletter



Jervis Bay Territory Community | Issue no. 25 | 16 June 2021

## COVID-19 vaccines common questions

### Q. Why should I get a COVID-19 vaccine?

A. COVID-19 can be a very serious illness, especially for our elders and those in our community who have existing medical conditions. Getting a vaccine is one of the best ways of protecting yourself and others in your community from getting really sick or even dying from COVID-19. There is also more and more evidence that vaccines might help reduce the spread of the virus. Encourage your family, Elders and community to get vaccinated so that they are protected from serious illness from COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccines are free and voluntary.

### Q. Which vaccine can I get?

A. The AstraZeneca vaccine is preferred for adults aged 50 years and over. The Pfizer vaccine has been approved for adults 16 years and older. Pfizer is the preferred vaccine for adults under 50 years who have not already received their first dose of AstraZeneca vaccine. This is due to the increase in risk for adults aged under 50 years in potentially developing blood clots and the larger risk of adults aged 50 years and over in getting really sick from COVID-19. Those who live in rural or remote communities may be offered the Pfizer vaccine. All Australians are encouraged to have the vaccine offered to them, when they are eligible.

## Stay COVID Safe and get tested!

The COVID-19 health alert for Jervis Bay Territory (JBT) a fortnight ago shows the importance of staying COVID Safe and getting tested if you have any symptoms – even if they are very mild.

So far, more than 277,000 people have been tested for COVID-19 in the region, and it is important that we keep up high testing rates to identify any cases in the community as quickly as possible, keeping you, your families and community safe.

As well as people who have COVID-19 symptoms, people who have visited a confirmed COVID-19 case location during a particular time period should get tested. For the most up-to-date information on identified COVID-19 hotspots, as well as information on what to do if you have been to a hotspot, keep checking in with:

<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/updates/covid-19-areas-of-concern>

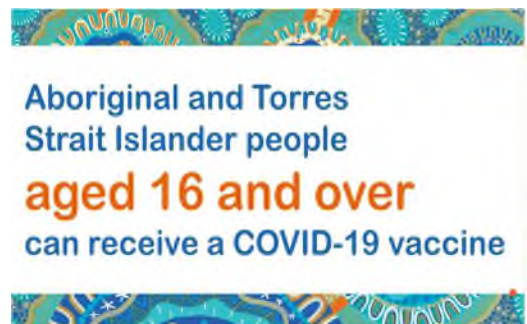
While COVID-19 continues to pose a risk to the health and wellbeing of the community, it is very important that you keep up to date with all the latest Australian and state and local Government advice. Remember, it is your responsibility to follow the rules and keep JBT COVID Safe.

For the latest Public Health Directions, use our QR code.



The COVID-19 vaccines are now available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples 16 years and older.

The AstraZeneca vaccine is preferred for adults aged 50 years and over. The Pfizer vaccine has been approved for adults 16 years and older.



Vaccines are available through Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services, Commonwealth vaccine clinics, general practices, GP-led respiratory clinics and state/territory health services/clinics.



## National Park Update

### Booderee National Park reopened to visitors from 9 am on Tuesday, 8 June 2021.

The national park was temporarily closed as a precaution, following a COVID-19 health alert for Jervis Bay. The alert was in response to confirmed cases of COVID-19 from Victoria who had visited sites in the Jervis Bay area including Green Patch campground at Booderee National Park.

During the closure period, further risk assessments have taken place and deep cleaning was undertaken in the Green Patch campground amenities – including barbecues, picnic tables, bathrooms and campsites.

Fortunately, there have been no further cases of COVID-19 in the Jervis Bay area and all Booderee staff tested have returned a negative result.

Booderee National Park will continue to undertake daily cleaning of the Green Patch Campground amenities and maintain other safety measures as part of its COVID-19 Safe operating practices.

As always, park staff remain dedicated to ensuring the safety of all our visitors, staff and the Wreck Bay Aboriginal community.

Visitors with camping bookings and pre-booked park passes from Wednesday 2 June to Tuesday 8 June, 2021 are encouraged to contact the park for a refund or rebooking if they have not done so already.

## Have you had your vaccine yet?

Join more than 55,000 other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people around Australia who have already had their COVID-19 vaccine, by having your vaccine when it is available to you. Share your experience and information about the importance of being vaccinated using the social media template available at <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccination-social-media-template-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples> that features a beautiful artwork by Wiradjuri woman Jordana Angus.



## COVID-19 vaccine videos in Aboriginal languages

What is the COVID-19 vaccine and why do we need it? Is it safe? How will I feel after it? Find answers to those and other questions in a series of videos produced by the Menzies School of Health Research. Menzies is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes, dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The videos are available in several Aboriginal languages. Watch these amazing resources at <https://www.menzies.edu.au/page/Research/COVID-19/Resources/> and forward them on!



## Giving your consent

When you go to your COVID-19 vaccination appointment, the person doing your vaccination will ask you **for your consent**. When you give your consent, you are saying it is ok for someone to do the agreed action.



At your appointment they will ask you for your consent to have your:

- first COVID-19 vaccine today
- second COVID-19 vaccine later.



You can choose to have the vaccine. You can also choose not to have the vaccine if you don't want to.

**KEEP OUR MOB SAFE, STOP THE SPREAD.**

Coronavirus (COVID-19)