



**Great Ocean Road Health Media Release  
Monday 21 June, 2021**

**Great Ocean Road Health Vaccination Update**

Last week the state-wide changes to vaccine availability have come into effect. The changes are in response to high demand for COVID-19 vaccine in recent weeks, and the need to ensure the availability of second doses.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) released a revised recommendation in relation to the AstraZeneca vaccine.

Effective immediately, ATAGI advises that Pfizer is preferred over AstraZeneca for those aged 16 to 59 years. This is based on recent data regarding thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) cases in Australia and a reassessment of current age-specific risks and benefits of vaccination.

Following these recommendations, Apollo Bay and Lorne Medical Centre vaccination clinics will now vaccinate the community as follows:

**AstraZeneca**

**1<sup>st</sup> dose**

- If you are **aged 50-59** years and you have a 1<sup>st</sup> dose appointment you will now be offered the Pfizer vaccine. You should attend your appointment as planned.
- If you are **aged 60+** and you have a 1<sup>st</sup> dose appointment, attend your appointment as planned. You will be offered the AstraZeneca vaccine.
- If you are **aged 60+** and you do not have an appointment you must make an appointment before attending the clinic. Walk-ins are no longer accepted.

**2<sup>nd</sup> dose**

If you received a 1<sup>st</sup> dose of AstraZeneca without any serious adverse effects you can receive a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of AstraZeneca. Please book your 2<sup>nd</sup> appointment.

**Pfizer**

**1<sup>st</sup> dose**

- If you are booked for your 1<sup>st</sup> dose of Pfizer, please attend your appointment as planned.
- If you are **aged 50-59** years and you have a 1<sup>st</sup> dose appointment for AstraZeneca you will now be offered the Pfizer vaccine. Please attend your appointment as planned.
- At the time of writing, new 1<sup>st</sup> dose bookings for Pfizer are only available for people in the following categories: Hotel Quarantine staff and Tidewatch; high rise accommodation residents and staff; Red Zone airport and marine port staff; and those with travel exemptions.

**2<sup>nd</sup> dose**

- If you are due for your 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of Pfizer please book your appointment.