

COVID-19 Vaccine: Supporting Residents

The COVID-19 vaccine has been clinically tested and found to be safe and effective.

It gives us, our loved ones, and the people in our care the best protection possible against coronavirus.



Scientific research tells us that there are lots of different reasons why people might feel reluctant to have the vaccine. These groups of people maybe even more likely to refuse the vaccine:

- Women
- Young people
- People from low income households
- People with lower education levels
- People from ethnic minority groups

Reasons might include:

- Lack of trust in authorities
- Concerns or lack of understanding about vaccine safety, potential side effects, effectiveness, eligibility, and the speed of development
- Lack of information or misinformation
- Perceptions of being at low risk of infection
- Fear of needles

Evidence-based strategies can help us to support residents and encourage uptake during the vaccination rollout:

Reduce or remove any environmental barriers

Provide timely, easy to understand, and relevant information on how they will be vaccinated, and why.

Be responsive to people's language, literacy, and comprehension

Remind people to get vaccinated and help them plan to do this.

Ensure people have a positive vaccination experience, and that they are treated with kindness, understanding and respect.

Help to increase motivation

Build trust by communicating early, consistently and by answering any questions

Take time to have in-person conversations.

Accurately promote the benefits of vaccination (carefully managing expectations), and normalise the practice by likening it to getting the flu jab.

Respectfully highlight the consequences of inaction (such as increased risk of becoming ill)

Use Social Influences

Remind residents that most people are being vaccinated or are intending to.

Publicise that people are increasingly engaged with vaccination as roll-out progresses.

Ask trusted community members (staff & residents) to voice their support.