

20 February 2023

Dear Residential Care residents, families and visitors

2023 COVID-19 Booster Dose

Recently the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) updated their recommendation on COVID-19 vaccination.

ATAGI now recommends a 2023 COVID-19 booster dose for adults 65 years and over.

The 2023 COVID-19 booster is anticipated to address waning protection against severe COVID-19 prior to winter and can be administered with other vaccines including the influenza vaccine.

Eligibility

Residents are eligible for a booster dose when it has been 6 months or more since their last COVID-19 dose or confirmed infection of COVID-19. Importantly, the COVID-19 booster is available regardless of the number of prior doses received.

The vaccines

You may have heard about the new bivalent COVID-19 vaccines. These include vaccines manufactured by Pfizer and Moderna and provide protection against two strains of COVID-19. All currently available COVID-19 vaccines provide benefit as a booster dose however bivalent vaccines are preferred.

Vaccination administration

Unlike the previous two years we will not be hosting set vaccination clinic dates. This time Crowley staff will monitor eligibility and as Residents become eligible for their 2023 COVID-19 booster dose our Clinical Team will liaise with them, and where required, their person/s responsible, to seek consent for administration of the booster.

We continue to encourage all eligible residents, visitors and staff to maintain their vaccinations. Should you have any questions regarding the 2023 COVID-19 booster dose or resident vaccination please contact our clinical nursing team

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Penhey".

Michael Penhey
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER