

Monday, 23 August 2021

Illawarra Shoalhaven joins AstraZeneca vaccine roll out

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District (ISLHD) nurse immunisers will this week begin administering the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine at the District's new Mass Vaccination Centre (MVC) in Wollongong, as well as its Shellharbour Vaccine Clinic.

Starting tomorrow, Tuesday 24 August, the AstraZeneca vaccine will be available for people aged 18 and over at the Wollongong MVC in the Crown Street Mall and the Shellharbour City Centre Clinic on selected days.

ISLHD Chief Executive, Margot Mains said increasing the number of people fully vaccinated against COVID is a fundamental part of our nation's response to the pandemic.

"We want to make it as easy as possible for members of the community to access the COVID-19 vaccine, which is why the District is pleased to now be providing both the Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccine. We're also pleased to be making the AstraZeneca available as a walk-in service," Ms Mains said.

As the AstraZeneca is also available locally through selected GPs and pharmacies, the District will initially have capacity to administer around 200 vaccines a day between the two facilities. However capacity can be increased in the future in response to demand if required.

"Our Mass Vaccination Centre in Wollongong has hit the ground running since opening its doors earlier this month," Ms Mains said. "The size of this new centre means we are able to dedicate the ground floor to the delivery of AstraZeneca and the first floor for Pfizer, with clear protocols in place to ensure the vaccine is managed safely," she said.

"We remind the community that, at this stage, access to the Pfizer vaccine at the Wollongong MVC is by appointment only.

"We are grateful so many people are heeding the call to be vaccinated and we appreciate every person taking this incredibly important step to keep themselves, their loved ones, colleagues and our community safe," Ms Mains said.

Pfizer vaccine appointments from the Shellharbour City Centre vaccine clinic were moved across to the MVC when it opened earlier this month, leaving the clinic space open for other opportunities.

"We're thrilled to now have the opportunity to utilise this space for a walk-in AstraZeneca clinic and further expand our rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine locally," Ms Mains said.

The community is reminded that leaving home to receive a vaccine is permitted under the stay at home orders. However you must not attend your vaccination appointment if you have

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healthdirect AUSTRALIA – providing expert health advice 24 hours a day to NSW residents – Tel. 1800 022 222

any COVID-19 symptoms. Please get tested and self-isolate until you receive a negative test result. You should also not attend if you are a close contact.

Booking a vaccine appointment via the [Australian Government eligibility checker](#) shows available appointments at NSW Health vaccination centres, as well as GPs and pharmacies.

If there are no available bookings at a location near you soon, please continue to visit the eligibility checker as more vaccination appointments become available.

If you are unable to keep your appointment, please ensure that you contact the bookings team, by phoning 1300 096 365, to let them know ASAP. This allows us to bring forward other people booked in and free up appointments.

AstraZeneca Vaccine ISLHD Clinic details

Wollongong Mass Vaccination Centre

Crown Street Mall, Wollongong (the old David Jones building) access via Globe Lane - Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays

12-noon to 4pm

Walk-ins. Bookings also available via [Eligibility Checker](#).

Shellharbour City Centre Clinic

5-8 Memorial Drive, Shellharbour City Centre

Tuesdays and Thursdays

9.30am-3pm

Walk-ins only

[Visit our website](#) for the latest information on vaccinations in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven regions.

Stay up to date with the latest information on the Federal Government roll out here:

<https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/getting-vaccinated-for-covid-19>

For the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccine in NSW, visit the [NSW Health website](#).

The NSW Government has committed more than \$4 billion to the NSW health system to manage the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020.