

Fairway
Bayside Aged Care Limited

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17th February 2021

Dear Residents, Relatives and Friends,

COVID-19 vaccination for aged care residents

We would like to inform you that the Australian Government is almost ready to begin the rollout of the COVID19 vaccine. Aged care residents are on the list of priority groups because they are at higher risk of serious illness if they contract COVID-19.

While the Government is still working through the finer details of the vaccination rollout, we want to make sure residents and their families are kept informed as much as possible.

Australia has contracts in place to distribute two different COVID-19 vaccines: the Pfizer vaccine and the AstraZeneca vaccine. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has provisionally approved both the Pfizer and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines for use in Australia. Both vaccines have met the TGA's rigorous standards for safety, quality and efficacy. It will be free to all Australian residents. Aged care residents will most likely receive the Pfizer vaccine. For more information, please refer to the attached information sheet from the Australian Government.

Where and when will I receive the vaccine?

A skilled immunisation team will work in partnership with Fairway clinical staff to administer the vaccine to residents and staff. The vaccine will be administered at Fairway. COVID-19 vaccine requires two doses so vaccinators will attend our facility twice.

Fairway will be notified when vaccinators will deliver the vaccine. As soon as we are notified, we will communicate to residents, families and staff immediately. Please note, there may be little warning before vaccinators arrive so we will try to give you as much notice as possible.

How do I consent to the vaccination?

Vaccination is the most effective way to protect us against infectious diseases. When you get vaccinated, you are protecting yourself and the whole community.

'Fairway Bayside Aged Care is a not-for-profit aged care home, built by the community for the community'

Vaccination is safe, free, and voluntary. We hope that all residents will take the opportunity to get vaccinated. However, if you have any concerns about the vaccine, please ask your doctor or Sylvia Spacil. If you would prefer to not get vaccinated please contact Sylvia Spacil.

We will provide more information about consent for the vaccination as soon as this is available from the Department of Health.

Will life at Fairway return to normal once residents and staff receive the vaccination?

At this stage, we do not know how effective the vaccines are against community transmission, however tests have shown that people who receive the vaccine are less likely to experience serious illness if they are infected with coronavirus.

Current practice at Fairway will continue once we have been vaccinated. This includes maintaining physical distancing, good hand hygiene, getting tested if symptomatic and wearing mask when required.

More information on COVID-19 vaccine program

If you would like to find out more information about the COVID-19 vaccine program, please visit the Department of Health website: <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines>.

Please share this information with your immediate and extended family.

It has been a challenging period since news of this pandemic broke, affecting the world stage. At the time speculation about a vaccine seem a long way off and it is now nearly available. Your support, understanding and efforts to help prevent or reduce transmission of this virus is a huge team effort and we thank you for everything you have done.

If you have any questions, please contact Sylvia or myself.

Regards



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