



Australian Government
Department of Health

Chief Medical Officer

Dear Aged Care Resident

I refer you to my letter of 16 December 2021, in which I strongly encouraged you to receive your COVID-19 booster. Your continued protection against COVID-19 remains of paramount importance. Booster doses strengthen your protection from serious illness, hospitalisation or death from COVID-19.

Commonwealth booster clinics have now been delivered across all residential aged care facilities. However, I am concerned that many residents are not yet protected with a COVID-19 booster.

If you have not received your booster dose, please talk to your facility and seek to get a booster as a priority. There are multiple options to get a booster vaccine, including your facility arranging for a general practitioner or pharmacy to visit your facility and provide a booster service. Your facility can also seek an in-reach booster clinic from the Commonwealth government.

You are eligible to receive a booster dose if you received your second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine three or more months prior. If you are yet to complete your primary course of a COVID vaccine, booster clinics can also offer a first or second dose if required, or a third dose for those who are severely immunocompromised.

Commonwealth arranged booster clinics are available for return to residential aged care facilities. Where less than 10 residents require a COVID-19 vaccination, the facility is encouraged to organise for a visiting GP or pharmacist to administer the vaccines. Where this is not possible, a Commonwealth booster clinic will be organised.

If you have any concerns about receiving the booster dose, please discuss this with your doctor or other allied health professional. You can also call the COVID-19 Helpline on 1800 020 080 (select option 3) for any questions about vaccination.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Kelly', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Professor Paul Kelly
Chief Medical Officer

9 February 2022