



COVID-19 Vaccination Consent

Decision making with your Attorney

People living in residential aged care can receive a third COVID-19 vaccination (or booster). A third vaccination has shown to provide greater protection against serious illness and death from COVID-19.

If you have an Attorney who helps you with making decisions about health matters, it is important to understand your rights when it comes to making the decision, or having your say, about receiving COVID-19 vaccinations.

Have you been informed?

In order to give “informed” or “valid” consent to the COVID-19 vaccination it means that you have been given clear information about the vaccine, in a format you understand, so you can make the right decision for you about your health.

Everyone must be given the opportunity to give consent or give an indication about what their wishes and preferences are, including people with declining cognitive ability or impairments.

Who makes the decision?

You can have a say.

Even when you have an Attorney helping you to make decisions about your health, they must take into account your views and wishes. Your Attorney should not simply make the decision on their own.

Everyone has the right to participate in decisions about their life, and it is the responsibility of your Attorney to inform and include you, support your decision making and otherwise make decisions that you normally would make (called Substituted Judgement).

For example, if you have a history of receiving vaccinations, then your Attorney should think you would want to have the COVID-19 vaccination.

Also, arrange to talk with your Attorney about your preferences at a time that works best for you.

What if I disagree with the decision my Attorney has made?

Advise your service provider and contact your local aged care advocate. ADA Australia has a network of aged care advocates across Queensland who support older people and their families. We can support you to talk to your Attorney and represent your views.

Call ADA Australia on **1800 700 600**.

Our services are free, independent and confidential.

For more information about duties and responsibilities of an Attorney under an Enduring Power of Attorney in Queensland visit www.adalaw.com.au/future-planning.

