

Key adult vaccinations for Australians living with COPD

COVID-19 booster

Recent COVID-19 booster vaccination found to be highly effective for preventing COVID-19 deaths in Australians aged 65+.¹



The general recommendation is a free booster every 6 months from age 75; every 12 months from age 65 or from age 18 if immunocompromised.

Influenza vaccination

Influenza vaccination is associated with significant reductions in influenza-related hospitalisation among people with COPD.²



The general recommendation is an annual vaccine that is free for people with COPD.

Pneumococcal disease vaccination

People with COPD vaccinated against pneumococcal disease are less likely to experience pneumonia.³



The general recommendation is 1 dose of a vaccine (PCV) as soon as possible after COPD diagnosis, followed later by 2 doses of a different vaccine (PPV).

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccination

RSV is recorded as responsible for a substantial percentage of outpatient COPD exacerbations.⁴



The general recommendation is a single vaccine dose from age 60 but can be received from age 50 by people with COPD.

Shingles vaccination

People with COPD are 41% more likely to develop shingles than healthy people.⁵



The general recommendation is two vaccine doses (2-6 months apart) from age 50 or from age 18 for people with risk conditions.

Whooping cough (pertussis) booster

For Australians aged 50+, those with COPD have higher rates of pertussis than the general population.⁶



Adults who want to reduce their risk may consider a pertussis-containing vaccine. Recommended from age 65 if last pertussis-containing vaccine was 10+ years ago.

Find out more



Show this to your doctor. Talk with them about the vaccines that can protect your health.

Free call Lung Health Helpline 1800 654 301 | lungfoundation.com.au | enquiries@lungfoundation.com.au