



2020 Flu Vaccines have arrived!

Limited numbers of Influenza Vaccines have arrived.

Which Flu Vaccines are currently available?

- Government Funded / Free – for people 65 yrs of age and older :
 - Flu vaccines for people aged 65 yrs and older are available. These are the only free influenza vaccines currently available.
- Privately Funded (\$20)
 - Currently available for anyone 6 months to 64 yrs of age

Please note:

Government funded (ie no cost) vaccines for those who are aged 6 months to 64 yrs of age and who meet the criteria below (“Who is eligible for the free influenza vaccine program”) are **not** currently available. You can pay for an influenza vaccine if you would like one ASAP.

Who is eligible for the free influenza vaccine program?

- people aged six months to less than five years
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged six months and older
- pregnant women (at any stage of pregnancy)
- people aged 65 years and older
- people aged six months and older with medical conditions putting them at increased risk of severe influenza and its complications including:
 - cardiac disease,
 - chronic respiratory conditions, including severe asthma
 - chronic neurological conditions that impact on respiratory function, including hereditary and degenerative central nervous system diseases and seizure disorders
 - immunocompromising conditions , including immunocompromised due to disease or treatment
 - diabetes and other metabolic disorders
 - renal disease
 - haematological disorders, including haemoglobinopathies
 - children aged six months to 10 years on long term aspirin therapy who are at increased risk of Reye syndrome following influenza infection.

The flu vaccine does not protect against COVID-19, see below “Why the flu vaccine is still very important”.

Consultations for both private and government funded influenza vaccines are bulk billed.

To make an appointment please visit www.sheppartontravelclinic.com.au or use the MediRecord patient app (mobile phones only).

We will announce on Facebook when further government funded vaccines become available.

Supplementary Information regarding Influenza Vaccination

Why is the Influenza Vaccine important during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Flu vaccine doesn't protect you against COVID-19. It is thought however if a person has a double infection with Coronavirus and Influenza that their immune system could be overwhelmed and possibly lead to a worse outcome. We can reduce the likelihood of Influenza infection with a flu vaccine. There is currently no vaccine effective against coronavirus.

MUST READ:

Procedure when attending for influenza vaccination at Shepparton Travel Clinic

These guidelines have been developed to reduce infection risk during the COVID-19 pandemic thereby helping to protect the health and safety of yourself and our staff.

- If you are unwell do not attend for vaccination.
- If you are showing COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms including fever, sore throat, cough or shortness of breath do not attend your appointment.
 - If you are unsure please call ahead to discuss whether it is appropriate for you to attend.
- If you have been told to self-isolate at home due to possible coronavirus/exposure to a person with coronavirus do not attend.

Prior to attending we ask that you complete the patient registration via our website

www.sheppartontravelclinic.com.au (hover over "About"), when making an appointment through the MediRecords app or by ringing 0487431036.

When you arrive at the clinic please:

- Remain in your car
- Ring us on 0487431036 to let us know you have arrived
- When the doctor is ready to see you, we will ring you on your phone. After a brief consultation over the phone you will be invited into the clinic. Your temperature will be taken to exclude a fever and your flu vaccination will be administered.
- You will then be asked to sit in our waiting room for 10-15mins after vaccination.