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Worried about having your second dose of AstraZeneca?

Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most of these are mild and short-term, and not everyone gets them.

It is important that you get your two doses of the COVID-19 vaccines to give you the best protection. Not all COVID-19 vaccines are the same.

Very common side effects in the first day or two include:

- having a painful, heavy feeling and tenderness in the arm where you had your injection
- feeling tired
- headache, aches and chills

The AstraZeneca (AZ) vaccine causes far fewer side effects after the second dose.

Pfizer and Moderna tend to cause more side effects after the second dose. Studies have shown that if you have one of these vaccines after a first dose of AstraZeneca, your risk of common side effects is higher. Most of these side effects only last a day or two and you still make a good immune response.

The current advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) is:

- those who have received their first dose of AZ vaccine without suffering any serious side effects should continue to be offered the second dose to complete the course. This includes individuals who are aged 39 years or younger

Find out more at www.nidirect.gov.uk/covid-vaccine

This PDF publication is for those who may be worried about getting their second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine. The advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) is that if you've had your first dose without any serious reactions, it is important to come forward for your second dose to complete the course. This includes those aged 39 and younger who have already received their first dose.

Details

Format

A4 2 sides PDF only

Target group

Adults who have received their first COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine

Downloads

Attachment	Size
COVID-19 vaccination - Worried about second dose 010721	318.79 KB

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