

Australian Medical Association Limited
ABN 37 008 426 793

42 Macquarie Street, Barton ACT 2600: PO Box 6090, Kingston ACT 2604
 Telephone: (02) 6270 5400 Facsimile (02) 6270 5499
 Website : <http://www.ama.com.au/>



PFIZER VACCINE PROVISIONAL APPROVAL A STEP AHEAD

Today’s provisional approval of the Pfizer vaccine is an important step in Australia’s battle to protect Australians from COVID-19, AMA President Dr Omar Khorshid said.

“Australia has been fortunate that we are not in the emergency situations of other nations, and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has been able to go through its normal clearance processes for this vaccine,” Dr Khorshid said.

“Now the hard work of rolling out Australia’s biggest mass vaccination program begins.

“This will be an enormous task to get the vaccine delivered to as many Australians as possible, as quickly as possible.

“The AMA has been in talks with the Federal Government about the rollout of COVID vaccines, particularly in future phases where GPs will be critical in administering the AstraZeneca vaccine to the wider community.

“Over the weekend, the Federal Department of Health issued an expression of interest form for GPs who are interested in taking part in vaccinating the nation.

“The AMA has been working with Minister Hunt and the Department over the past few weeks to ensure that GPs are at the forefront of this campaign. This means we will be prepared for rollout once we have approval and supply of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

“The Federal Vice President, Dr Chris Moy, and I have written to all GP members of the AMA to encourage them to register their interest.”

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CONTACT: 0427 209 753
media@ama.com.au

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