

# HEALTH BEAT

**SPECIAL EDITION:** • COVID-19 Vaccination Update • Waimate vaccinations begin with Group 3 on Monday 31 May • Group 3 • When will I be offered a vaccine?

## Group 3 vaccinations now underway

**Group 3 is all people aged 65 and over, and people with a disability or some underlying health conditions. This is a very large group, so the roll-out will not happen all in one go. To ensure it happens smoothly, we will need to pace ourselves through it.**

If you're in this group, you'll hear from the South Canterbury District Health Board, your GP, or other local health provider by the end of July with an invitation to book an appointment. There's nothing else you need to do at this stage.

### Vaccinations for other high-risk groups

We're already well underway with vaccinating people in Groups 1 and 2 in our region. Group 1 is people that work at the border and managed quarantine facilities, and the people they live with. We've largely completed this group, but will continue to vaccinate new border workers and the people who live with them.

Group 2 is high-risk frontline workers in health and aged residential care, people living in long-term aged residential care, and older Māori and Pacific people and those who care for them. This group is progressing well.

If you're in these groups you will be contacted via post by the South Canterbury District Health Board, another health provider, your employer, your iwi or hapū, other community organisation, or the residential facility you live in. If you're in Group 1 or 2 and haven't been contacted yet, you can call the enquiries line on 0800 886 633.

### Vaccinations for everybody else

Vaccinations for the rest of South Canterbury (Group 4) or 'the general population', will begin in July. We'll keep you informed about this.

*Find out more at our website [scdhb.health.nz/info-for-you/covid-19vaccine](https://www.scdhb.health.nz/info-for-you/covid-19vaccine). Check what group you are in at [Covid19.govt.nz/myvaccine](https://www.covid19.govt.nz/myvaccine)*

## Group 3

**If you are aged 65 or over, have a relevant underlying health condition, pregnant, or disabled look out for an appointment letter in your mailbox.**



## First rural Group 3 clinic underway in Waimate



**ABOVE:** Wendy Buchanan Nurse Manager, Waimate Medical Centre, Jean Tutton NZRN Immuniser and Dr Steven Fish.

**With a watchful eye on the weather, the COVID-19 mobile clinic headed to Waimate on Monday for the first rural Group 3 vaccination clinics.**

Chris Medlicott from Waimate Rugby Club, where the clinic is based, said the Club was very pleased to support the community with the Covid Immunisation.

Since the start of May the immunisation team have been busy contacting Waimate residents in Group 3 and have clinics booked until mid-next week.

People are reminded to wear something that allows the vaccinators to get to the arm easily, and that the due to the booked appointments people do not need to arrive early and wait.

## COVID-19 Vaccination: When will I be offered an appointment?

**AIM:** The aim is to vaccinate the South Canterbury population over 16 years of age by the end of the year. This is roughly 48,500 people.

### Group 1 – now onwards

Border and managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) workers

### Group 2 – now onwards

High-risk frontline workers and people living in high-risk places

### Group 3 – now onwards

People who are at risk of getting very sick from COVID-19

### Group 4 – July-December

Everyone

**HOT TIP:** Check out the "When can you get a vaccine" tool on the Unite Against COVID-19 website to find out in more detail which group you may be in. [covid19.govt.nz/vaccine](https://www.covid19.govt.nz/vaccine)



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