



PREPARE
PACIFIC



COVID-19
VACCINATION
ROLL OUT FOR
PACIFIC COMMUNITIES

VACCINE SAFETY

Updated 25th June, 2021



VACCINE SAFETY

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- **We understand that you might feel a bit worried about receiving the vaccine.**
- **We want to provide you with information to help you and your family feel prepared for your vaccination.**
- **In New Zealand, all new medicines, including vaccines, are assessed by an organisation called Medsafe.**
- **Medsafe will only approve a vaccine once it is confident it meets all the safety checks and standards.**
- **The only COVID-19 vaccine currently approved for use in New Zealand is the Pfizer vaccine.**

Last updated: 25th June, 2021

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
HEALTHLINE 0800 358 5453
www.preparepacific.nz



IF YOU FEEL WORRIED



In New Zealand, all new medicines, including vaccines, are assessed by an organisation called Medsafe

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- **We know the Pfizer vaccine is safe because it went through months of clinical testing with more than 40,000 people.**
- **Since then, many millions of people around the world of all different ages, gender and ethnicities have received the vaccine.**
- **From these studies we know that the Pfizer vaccine has a very good safety record, one of the best in the world.**

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THE VACCINE IS SAFE



Vaccine is safe because it went through months of clinical testing



Many millions of people around the world have received the vaccine.



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- **The vaccine is injected into your upper arm.**
- **People who have received this vaccine most commonly report having a sore arm and feeling a bit tired.**
- **Other reactions some people report are muscle aches, a fever or chills and feeling unwell (and you can take paracetamol for this).**
- **Most side effects people experience don't last very long – usually only 1 to 2 days.**

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POSSIBLE SIDE-EFFECTS

Together
protecting
Aotearoa

The vaccine is injected
into your upper arm



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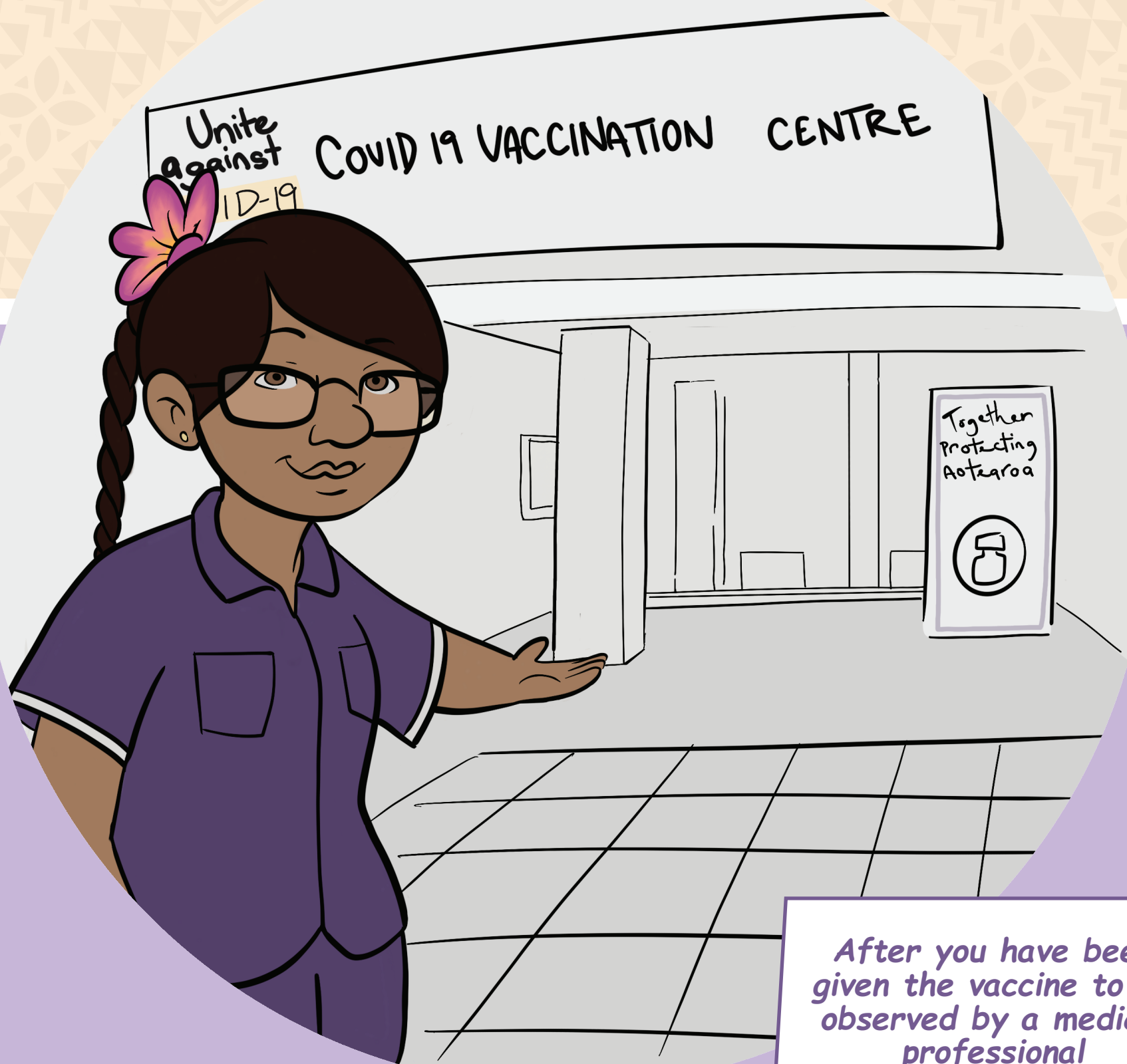
- You will have to wait 20 minutes after you have been given the vaccine to be observed by a medical professional as an extra safety precaution.
- This is what we have done in the past with other vaccines, including the flu vaccine.
- *(Note: that a severe allergic reaction occurs in about five per million people).

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EXTRA SAFETY MEASURES IN PLACE



*After you have been
given the vaccine to be
observed by a medical
professional*



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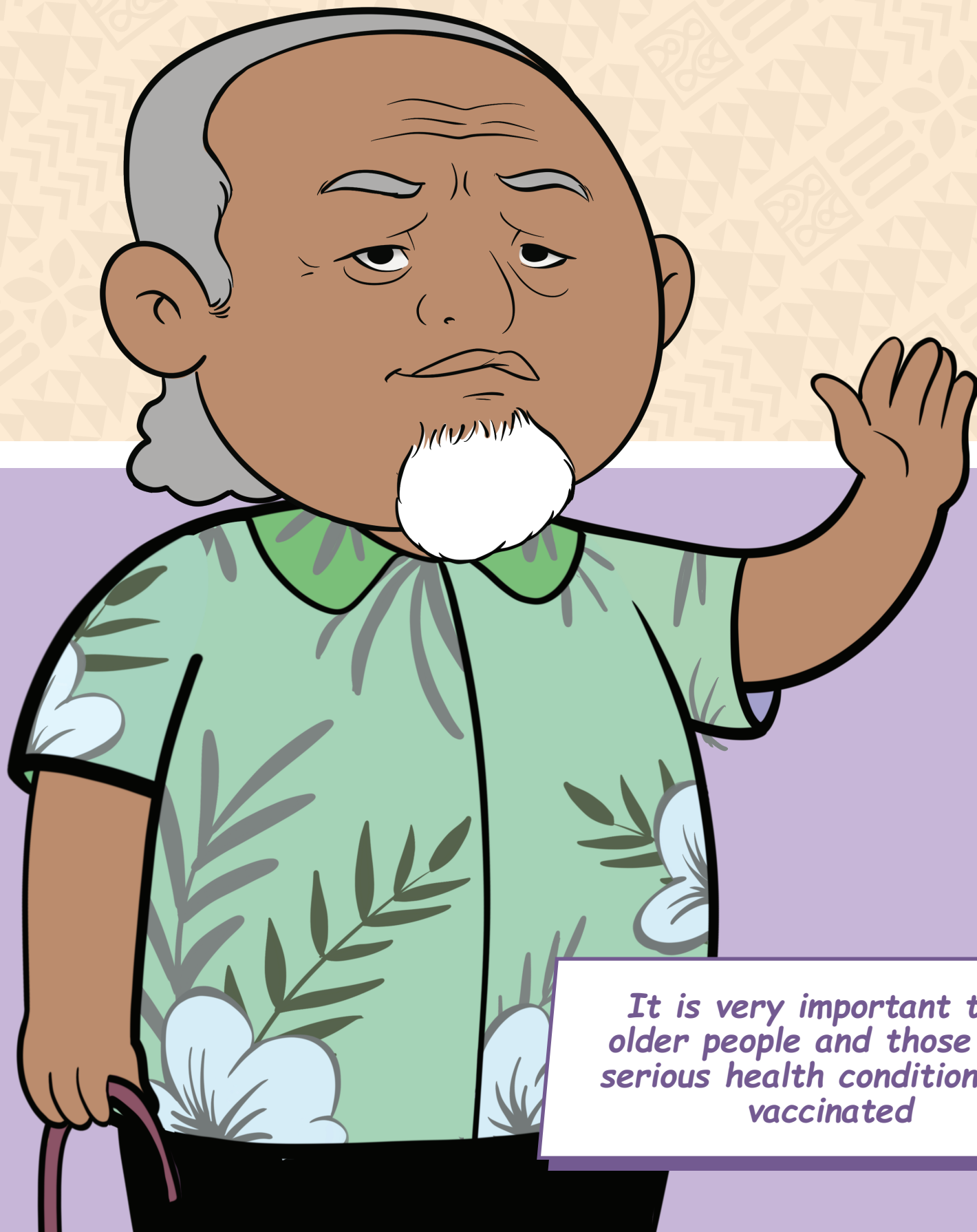
- **You will be asked about your health and any medications you are on before you receive the vaccine.**
- **It is very important that older people and those with a serious health condition get vaccinated first because they are more at risk of the harmful effects of COVID-19 than other groups.**
- **Most people with cancer or other chronic illness can be vaccinated.**

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**THE VACCINE IS SAFE FOR OLDER
PEOPLE AND PEOPLE WITH A
SERIOUS HEALTH CONDITION**



*It is very important that
older people and those with
serious health conditions get
vaccinated*

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- **If you are pregnant and choose to have the vaccine, you can get early access.**
- **It is important to discuss your individual situation with your midwife or doctor especially if you have other health concerns.**
- **This is because people who are pregnant can become very sick if they get COVID-19.**

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THE VACCINE IS SAFE FOR PREGNANT WOMEN



*If you are pregnant and
choose to have the vaccine,
you can get early access*



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- **There are no safety concerns about giving the vaccine to women who are breastfeeding.**

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THE VACCINE IS SAFE FOR WOMEN WHO ARE BREASTFEEDING



*There are no safety concerns
about giving the vaccine to
women who are breastfeeding*

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Your family doctor or
Healthline on **0800 358 5453**

Prepare Pacific website **www.preparepacific.nz**

COVID 19 vaccines website:

**[www.covid19.govt.nz/health-and-wellbeing
/covid-19-vaccines](http://www.covid19.govt.nz/health-and-wellbeing/covid-19-vaccines)**

**This Resource was developed based on
the latest information available:**

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