



Public Position on COVID-19 Vaccination

COVID-19 has touched each of our lives in significant ways. Life is a lot different and even within our resilient community, this pandemic will leave a lasting mark.

As an organisation, the Rainforest 4 Foundation has adopted a supportive and positive position on the advice given by the New South Wales Ministry of Health (Health NSW) and the Australian Government concerning vaccinations. Rainforest 4 also respects the individual's right to decide if they get vaccinated or not.

Strict hygiene and physical distancing practices are adhered to, to minimise the risk of infection and all of our staff are instructed to follow current government and health agency advice to get tested for COVID-19 and stay at home if they are feeling unwell.

Getting a Vaccination

Rainforest 4 supports all employees who wish to have a COVID-19 vaccine. Employees are able to use sick leave to take time off work to attend GP and vaccination appointments. Employees are also able to use sick leave to recover from any side effects of being vaccinated.

Rainforest 4 recommends that all employees talk to a health professional about the benefits and risks of vaccination. This will help employees decide if the vaccination is suitable for them.

Policy and Procedure

Public health advice, risk assessments and workforce requirements and locations will inform the development of company vaccination policies. Considerations include:

- Proximity to remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, which are identified as being at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19. ([Link](#))
- The proportion of employees at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19
- Worker travel requirements
- Volunteers ([Link](#))

Updates

Rainforest 4 is committed to keeping staff up-to-date with the most relevant information. Staff are encouraged to regularly check national and state government sources for the latest information about COVID-19 vaccinations.

Resources

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<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/vaccine/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/health-and-wellbeing/covid-19-vaccination-nsw/get-your-covid-19-vaccination-nsw>

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/book-covid-vaccination>

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/health-and-wellbeing/covid-19-vaccination-nsw/covid-19-vaccination-for-workers>

