

QUICK GUIDE

FOR USE WITH EXPECTING PARENTS



Talking about COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy

The SKAI communications approach can be applied to conversations about COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy. Use the steps in this quick guide for your discussions with patients who are pregnant, or trying to conceive.



MORE INFO

See the video module on skai.org.au/healthcare-professionals.

WHAT NEXT?

1

Familiarise yourself

Familiarise yourself with current recommendations and evidence. Check regularly as the number of doses, and the intervals between doses, can change.

2

Determine eligibility

Discuss COVID-19 vaccination with every pregnant woman at every appointment at any time during pregnancy.

3

Recommend vaccination

Recommend vaccination for pregnant women who have received fewer than three doses and women with underlying risk factors.

4

Find out all their questions

The most common concerns are around vaccine safety, speed of vaccine development, long-term outcomes, impact on breastfeeding, and impact on future fertility.

5

Share knowledge

Be prepared to share links to specific research data. Acknowledge uncertainty but emphasise consistent evidence of safety.

6

Weigh personal risks and benefits

Pregnancy is not a risk factor for severe illness in vaccinated women, but some women are at higher risk due to underlying conditions.

Ready? Facilitate vaccination

Repeat recommendation to vaccinate and offer the vaccine on site if possible. COVID-19 vaccines can be delivered with other vaccines.

Not ready? Continue the conversation

Repeat recommendation to vaccinate but keep the door open if not ready.