

# Clinician Referral Guide to the Victorian Specialist Immunisation Services (VicSIS)

The purpose of this document is to provide clinicians and vaccine providers with additional information for when it is appropriate to refer patients into VicSIS vs when patients can receive their vaccines in clinic.

## Does the patient meet the following criteria?

- Previous cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST), heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT), idiopathic splanchnic (mesenteric, portal and splenic) venous thrombosis, anti-phospholipid syndrome with thrombosis or thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS).
- Anaphylaxis or generalised allergic reaction (without anaphylaxis) to any component of the COVID-19 vaccine to be administered
- A history of PEG or polysorbate related reactions and/or a history of multiple allergic reactions to other medications containing PEG or polysorbate.
- Immediate (within 2 hours) and generalised symptoms of a possible allergic reaction (e.g. hives) to a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Yes

Referral to Victorian Specialist Immunisation Services (VicSIS)

No

## Does the patient meet the following criteria?

- A mast cell activation disorder with raised mast cell tryptase needing treatment and has been unable to tolerate previous injections (e.g. flu vaccine)

Yes No

Referral to VicSIS

## Does the patient meet the following criteria?

- Previous history of anaphylaxis to other vaccines or multiple drugs

Yes No

Proceed to vaccinate at GP clinic or vaccine hub with **30-minute observation period.**

## If the patient meets the following criteria:

- History of allergy, including anaphylaxis to food, venom, or latex
- Allergic conditions including asthma, atopic dermatitis (eczema), or allergic rhinitis (hay fever)
- History of venous thromboembolism in typical sites (DVT or pulmonary embolism)
- Predisposition to form blood clots (e.g. Factor V Leiden) or other non-immune thrombophilic disorders
- Family history of clots or clotting conditions
- Receiving anticoagulant medications
- History of ischaemic heart disease or cerebrovascular accident
- Current or past history of thrombocytopenia\*

Please see recent [ATAGI and THANZ statement on TTS and the COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca](#)

Yes

Proceed to routine vaccination at GP clinic or vaccine hub.

\*if platelets <20, reduce risk of haematoma at injection site with pressure/cool compress

## Does the patient meet the following criteria?

- Significantly immunocompromised (e.g. on chemotherapy, DMARDs, post bone marrow transplant)
- On anticoagulants with INR>3
- Previous multiple sclerosis/Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS)
- Or GP not comfortable to proceed

No Yes

Refer to the [MVEC resources](#) and [The Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) or usual treating specialist