

Have you received your COVID-19 jab yet? Are you thinking about getting vaccinated? Are

B

you confused by all the conflicting information out there?

A new set of resources published by the Australian Academy of Science in collaboration with the Australian Government Department of Health provides clear and credible answers based on the best science.

The Science of Immunisation

The Science of Immunisation is a set of resources that explain what immunisation is and how vaccines work. The aim is to help people make good health decisions.



The resources cover the following topics:

1. What is immunisation?
2. What is in a vaccine?
3. Who benefits from vaccines?
4. Are vaccines safe?
5. What does the future hold for vaccination?

Additionally, you can look up explanations of pesky terms such as “adjuvants,” “herd immunity,” “pathogen,” and many more. Furthermore, the website also features several short videos clips – informative to watch and easy to share.

There is also linguistics in the science of immunisation

The expert working group behind the *The Science of Immunisation* includes some of Australia’s most prominent medical experts, as you would expect. Additionally, there were also three language and communications experts, and I am honored to have been one of them.

The working group paid careful attention to targeting all audiences in our linguistically and culturally diverse society. Therefore, questions of linguistic inclusion and communicative accessibility played an important role in the development of the resources.

In terms of language and communication, *The Science of Immunisation* is a practical outcome of the research about language challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic that we’ve been publishing here on *Language-on-the-Move*.

To learn more about linguistic inclusion and communicative accessibility in healthcare communication:

- Does every Australian have an equal chance to know about COVID-19 restrictions?
- Crisis communication in multilingual Australia
- More about crisis communication in multilingual Australia

Check out all *Language on the Move* resources about “Linguistic diversity in a time of crisis.”

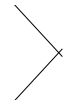
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Ingrid Piller
October 30, 2021



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