

## Confusion over AstraZeneca Vaccine advice

By Alexia Attwood on AM 1 July 2021

SL: The bitter spat between politicians and health officials over Australia's bungled COVID vaccine rollout is showing no signs of easing. And while the confusion continues over whether it's safe to get the AstraZeneca vaccine, the list of cities and areas where millions of people are in isolation is a long one. Sydney, Brisbane, the golden Sunshine Coasts, Townsville, Perth, Darwin and Alice Springs. Alexia Attwood reports:

AA: While the nations leaders and medical officials were exchanging insults and offering conflicting advice on just who should get the AstraZeneca vaccine, 30 year old Sydney Nurse Jacob Hanson rolled up his sleeve for his second dose.

JH: Getting your vaccination in this kind of environment is sort of a civil duty. Walk in, get it done, walk out. Very easy, it takes 10 minutes

AA: And he's not impressed by confusing messages from state and Federal Governments.

JH: It does create a bit of confusion, like what to believe and what not to believe. Personally, I weighed out the risks and benefits and I do believe that even though that yes there might be a microscopic chance of having side effects from the AstraZeneca vaccine. I do still believe that its, the benefits outweigh, by far any risk. I was not nervous about getting it.

AA: Jacob Hanson misses his family and friends in Denmark and is desperate for them to return to his upcoming wedding here.

JH: Doesn't matter which vaccine you get offered, just get it. If you want this world to return to a somewhat normal state, we all need to do our part and if that is getting the AstraZeneca vaccine, please just do it. We all want to return back to normal and see our loved ones, whether they live in the country or overseas so please just do it.

AA: Almost 12 Million people are now in lockdown thanks to COVID outbreaks in multiple towns and cities. Even one of the most remote, Alice Springs has been locked down because a covid positive minor passed through the local airport and the Territories Chief Minister says he's not willing to take a punt. It's a hard pill to swallow for Kyle Pierson, the Director of Alice Springs Brewing Co.

KP: I guess we all gotta tow the line, obviously because COVID is a serious thing and its dangerous I guess I have some questions as to how we are doing it as a precautionary measure. That sorta language suggests to me that maybe we shouldn't be doing this, it's a bit hard to understand, but the communication out of Darwin to Alice hasn't been that great since this started last weekend, so um, probably not surprised that the communication is still poor.

AA: This is the busiest time of the year in Central Australia, where businesses earn enough to compensate for the quieter hotter months, so Kyle Pierson thinks that the ramifications of the snap lockdown will be immense.

KP: Its all about the whole, 30 people that we employ that are casuals that are facing lost wages. We got to explain to people that we cant give them sifts, we cant open we cant trade.