

# Portugal approves AstraZeneca jab for over-65s

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Portugal, following a number of other European countries, has approved AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine for people aged 65 and over, the DGS national health authority said on Wednesday.

"This [decision](#) takes into account data published in recent days indicating that the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine is effective for people aged over

65," the authority said in a statement.

The Ango-Swedish-made vaccine had previously been approved in Portugal for everyone over 18, but "preferably" for people aged under 65.

The government is aiming to vaccinate 70 percent of the [population](#) by the summer.

In lockdown since mid-January, Portugal has seen a sharp drop in the number of new infections from a peak of nearly 16,500 daily cases on January 28.

The country with a population of 10 million recorded 30 new deaths and 847 new cases over a 24-hour period on Tuesday.

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