



# Childhood Immunisation



Vaccinating your child on-time is the best way to help protect them against preventable and serious diseases.

The NSW Immunisation Schedule helps parents understand when they should vaccinate their children and is developed to protect children as soon as possible. (Given below)

Children should be vaccinated as close as possible to the scheduled milestones on the NSW Immunisation Schedule. It's important you don't delay vaccination.

Delaying immunisation places children at risk of catching disease and becoming very sick. On-time vaccination is also important to receive Australian Government family assistance payments and to enrol children in childcare, preschool and school in NSW.

For more details visit:

<https://skai.org.au/childhood>



## Why vaccinate

- Vaccination is the best way to protect your child from serious diseases.
- Vaccination helps control serious vaccine preventable diseases.
- The timing of every vaccine given to children is carefully chosen by experts to make sure children are protected at an age when disease is most common or most serious.

When to vaccinate The NSW Immunisation Schedule recommends that children are vaccinated at the following ages:

- Birth
- 6 Weeks
- 4 Months
- 6 Months
- 12 Months
- 18 Months
- 4 Years

It is important to vaccinate your child on time. So book ahead, make an appointment with your doctor or nurse and save the date to vaccinate.

Children

Age	Disease	Vaccine	Information
Birth	Hepatitis B	H-B-VaxII (IM) OR ENGERIX B (IM)	Administer within 7 days of birth (ideally within 24 hours).
6 weeks	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b	INFANRIX HEXA (IM) OR VAXELIS (IM)	Dose 1 limited to 6-14 weeks of age (before turning 15 weeks of age). Recommended for other children <sup>1</sup> (see AIH). Prophylactic paracetamol recommended.
	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 20 (IM)	
	Rotavirus	ROTARIX (Oral)	
	Meningococcal B (Aboriginal* children only)	BEXSERO (IM)	
4 months	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b	INFANRIX HEXA (IM) OR VAXELIS (IM)	Dose 2 limited to 10-24 weeks of age (before turning 25 weeks of age). Recommended for other children <sup>1</sup> (see AIH). Prophylactic paracetamol recommended.
	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 20 (IM)	
	Rotavirus	ROTARIX (Oral)	
	Meningococcal B (Aboriginal* children and medically at-risk children)	BEXSERO (IM)	
6 months	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b	INFANRIX HEXA (IM) OR VAXELIS (IM)	Children with specified risk conditions for IPD <sup>‡</sup> are recommended to receive an additional dose of Prevenar 202 (see AIH).
	Pneumococcal (Aboriginal* children only)	PREVENAR 20 (IM)	
Annual influenza vaccination			
All children ≥ 6 months to < 5 years	Influenza	INFLUENZA	Discuss influenza vaccination with other present family members. Children aged less than 9 years who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time should receive 2 doses of the vaccine, 4 weeks apart.
Aboriginal* people ≥ 6 months			
Children with risk conditions ≥ 6 months			
12 months	Meningococcal ACWY	NIMENRIX (IM)	Children with specified risk conditions for IPD <sup>‡</sup> are recommended to receive an additional dose of Prevenar 202 (see AIH).
	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 20 (IM)	
	Measles, mumps, rubella	MMR-II OR PRIORIX (IM OR SC)	
	Meningococcal B (Aboriginal* children only)	BEXSERO (IM)	
18 months	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis	INFANRIX OR TRIPACEL (IM)	Recommended for other children <sup>1</sup> (see AIH). Prophylactic paracetamol recommended.
	Measles, mumps, rubella, varicella	PRIORIX TETRA (IM OR SC)	
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	ACT-HIB (IM OR SC)	
4 years	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio	INFANRIX-IPV OR QUADRACEL (IM)	

At risk

Condition/Age	Disease	Vaccine	Information
All people with asplenia, hyposplenia, complement deficiency and treatment with eculizumab ≥ 6 months	Meningococcal ACWY	NIMENRIX (IM)	See AIH for required doses and timing. <sup>2</sup> See AIH for required doses and timing. <sup>2</sup>
	Meningococcal B	BEXSERO (IM)	Children 2-12 months with specified risk conditions for IPD <sup>‡</sup> are recommended to receive an additional dose of Prevenar 202 (see AIH).
	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 20 (IM)	Aboriginal* children ≥ 6 months with specified risk conditions may require an additional dose of Bexsero <sup>1</sup> (see AIH).
	Meningococcal B	B E X S E R O A C T -	If incompletely vaccinated or not vaccinated in childhood.
≥ 5 years with asplenia or hyposplenia	Haemophilus influenzae type b	HIB (IM or SC)	Eligible people ≥ 18 years considered at increased risk of herpes zoster due to an underlying condition and/or immunomodulatory/ immunosuppressive treatments.
≥ 18 years	Herpes Zoster	SHINGRIX (IM)	
Pregnant people			
	Influenza	INFLUENZA	Any trimester in each pregnancy. For vaccine brands and eligibility see the NSW Health webpage. <sup>§</sup>
	Pertussis	BOOSTRIX OR ADACEL (IM)	Each pregnancy between 20-32 weeks but may be given up until delivery.
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	ABRYSVO (IM)	Pregnancy from 28 weeks.

Adolescents

Age/School Year	Disease	Vaccine	Information
Year 7	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis	BOOSTRIX OR ADACEL (IM)	Catch-up vaccination also available through GPs, pharmacies and AMS <sup>†</sup> .
	Human papillomavirus	GARDASIL 9 (IM)	
Year 10	Meningococcal ACWY	MENQUADFI (IM) NIMENRIX	

Adults

Age Group	Disease	Vaccine	Information
≥ 65 years	Influenza	INFLUENZA	2 doses required – see AIH3 for dose intervals.
	Herpes Zoster	SHINGRIX (IM)	
≥ 70 years	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 13 (IM)	
All Aboriginal* adults	Influenza	INFLUENZA	
Aboriginal* people ≥ 50 years	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 13 (IM)	12 months later <sup>2</sup> (see AIH). At least 5 years later. 2 doses required – see AIH3 for dose intervals.
		PNEUMOVAX 23 (IM)	
	Herpes Zoster	SHINGRIX (IM)	
People with at risk conditions for IPD <sup>‡</sup>			See the online AIH for conditions recommended to receive Prevenar 13 and Pneumovax 23.2
COVID-19 vaccine as recommended in AIH.			

Vaccination catch up

All people under 20 years of age, including refugees and humanitarian entrants, are eligible for free catch-up vaccines under the National Immunisation Program (NIP) for any missed childhood vaccinations.

Refugees and humanitarian entrants aged 20 years and over are eligible for the following vaccines if they were missed: diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, chickenpox, polio, measles-mumps-rubella and hepatitis B, as well as HPV (up to and including age 25). Refer to the AIH<sup>#</sup> for timing of doses.

The HPV vaccine is available free to all people from 12-13 years (Year 7) up to 25 years of age<sup>4</sup> (see AIH).

\* The term Aboriginal is inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.  
† AMS: Aboriginal Medical Services.  
‡ IPD: Invasive pneumococcal disease.  
§ <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation>  
# AIH: Australian Immunisation Handbook <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/>  
1 <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccine-preventable-diseases/meningococcal-disease>  
2 <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccine-preventable-diseases/pneumococcal-disease>  
3 <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccine-preventable-diseases/zoster-herpes-zoster>  
4 <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccine-preventable-diseases/human-papillomavirus-hpv>