

# Routine Childhood Immunisation – community Information kit

June 2023



## Information kit

### Introduction

The National Immunisation Program (NIP) provides free vaccines to protect infants and children against serious diseases at scheduled times between birth and the age of 4.

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the Department) has launched a national campaign to support parents and carers in their decisions to vaccinate their children.

The campaign, 'One more way you keep them safe', highlights the importance of vaccinating children according to the NIP schedule, emphasising that vaccination is just one more of the many things parents and carers can do to keep their kids safe.

Information for parents and carers, as well as resources and campaign materials can be found at [health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation](http://health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation).

### How to use this kit

The resources in this kit are designed to promote and remind parents and carers of young children about the benefits of childhood immunisation.

Kindergartens, childcare centres, playgroups, community centres, councils, retailers, health and leisure centres and other early childhood organisations can share information about childhood immunisation by:

- including an article in newsletters and/or on websites (see example content below)
- publishing social media posts (see example content below)
- displaying resources such as posters (see example below) and brochures.

### Further information

For more information and resources, visit [www.health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation](http://www.health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation).

For any queries about the resources in this kit, please contact [publichealthcomms@health.gov.au](mailto:publichealthcomms@health.gov.au).

## Newsletter article

The article below can be published on your website or in a newsletter.

### **Are your child's vaccinations up to date?**

From the moment they're born, most babies can fight the germs they encounter every day, but there are some serious and life-threatening diseases they are not protected from. The free vaccines available through the National Immunisation Program are a simple, safe, and effective way to protect children from these preventable diseases, such as measles and whooping cough.

The timing of each dose of every vaccine in the Childhood Immunisation Schedule is carefully planned to protect babies and children as soon as possible and when they need it most. Vaccinating on time gives the best protection from preventable diseases. Delaying a vaccine appointment means your child is unprotected for longer than they need to be.




But if your child has fallen behind it's easy to catch up.

You can check the Childhood Immunisation Schedule to see which vaccines are recommended at specific times. You can also view your child's immunisation history through your online Medicare account.

For more information, including answers to common questions and how to check if your child's vaccinations are up to date, visit [health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation](https://health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation). You can also talk to a health professional you trust, for instance your doctor or nurse.

## Social posts

The posts and image tiles below can be published on your preferred social channels.

Post	Image
<p>Australia’s National Immunisation Program provides free vaccines to protect children against serious diseases.</p> <p>Find out more about the childhood immunisation schedule at <a href="http://health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation">health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation</a></p>	
<p>The National Immunisation Program provides free vaccines to protect babies and children against serious diseases at scheduled times between birth and the age of 4.</p> <p>For the best protection, babies and children need to get their vaccinations on time.</p> <p>For more information, including how to check if your child’s vaccinations are up to date, visit <a href="http://health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation">health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation</a>. You can also talk to your doctor, nurse or other health professional.</p> <p>#ChildhoodImmunisation #Vaccination #NationalImmunisationProgram #Immunisation</p>	
<p>Did you know that the National Immunisation Program provides free vaccines to protect children against serious diseases such as measles and polio? We don’t see these diseases often in Australia because of our high vaccination rates.</p> <p>If your child is overdue for their vaccinations, talk to your doctor, nurse or health professional about catching up. For more information, visit <a href="http://health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation">health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation</a>.</p> <p>#ChildhoodImmunisation #Vaccination #NationalImmunisationProgram #Immunisation</p>	

## Poster

[Download](#), print and display this poster on noticeboards, in foyers or in areas where parents and carers will see it.



## Brochure


Download or order [here](#). Also available online in [10 languages](#).

**Vaccines are safe**

All vaccines available in Australia have been reviewed by the Therapeutic Goods Administration to ensure they are safe and effective before they are approved for use. Their safety continues to be monitored once in use.

All vaccines used in Australia provide benefits that far outweigh any risks.

It is safer to be vaccinated than get the disease.



**Vaccination records**

Your child's vaccinations should be recorded in their Personal Health Record booklet given at birth. Your vaccination provider will also record their vaccinations on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

You can get your child's Immunisation History Statement from the AIR by:

- going to [my.gov.au](#) and signing in to access your Medicare online account or using the Express Plus Medicare mobile app;
- calling Services Australia on 1800 922 809 to request a copy;
- asking your vaccination provider to print a copy for you.

**MORE INFORMATION**

- talk to your vaccination provider
- visit [health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation](#)
- contact your state or territory health department

Information in this publication is current as at March 2021.


**National Immunisation Schedule (childhood)**

Age	Vaccines
<b>Birth</b>	Hepatitis B (early infant or hospital)
<b>2 weeks (or 12-18 weeks if you're a Torres Strait Islander child)</b>	Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
<b>4 weeks</b>	Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
<b>6 weeks</b>	Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, hepatitis B, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
<b>8 months to under 9 years</b>	Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
<b>12 months</b>	Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)
<b>18 months</b>	Measles, mumps, rubella, chickenpox (MMRV)
<b>4 years</b>	Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, Hib

**Childhood Vaccinations**

Information about the vaccines to protect against harmful diseases.

[health.gov.au/childhoodimmunisation](#)



**National Immunisation Program**