Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing

IMMUNISATION

National Immunisation PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Effective from 1 July 2007

NATIONAL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FROM 1 JULY 2007	
VACCINES FOR CHILDREN	
Birth	Hepatitis B
2 months	Hepatitis B Diphtheria-Tetanus-Whooping cough *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) Polio Pneumococcal disease Rotavirus
4 months	Hepatitis B Diphtheria-Tetanus-Whooping cough *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) Polio Pneumococcal disease Rotavirus
6 months	Hepatitis B (or at 12 months) Diphtheria-Tetanus-Whooping cough *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib)* Polio Pneumococcal disease Rotavirus*
12 months	Hepatitis B (or at 6 months) *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR) Meningococcal C disease
18 months	Chickenpox (Varicella)
4 years	Diphtheria-Tetanus-Whooping cough Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR) Polio

NATIONAL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FROM 1 JULY 2007	
VACCINES FOR ADOLESCENTS AND ADULTS	
10–13 years	Hepatitis B** Chickenpox (Varicella)**
12–13 years	Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
15–17 years	Diphtheria-Tetanus-Whooping cough
65+ years	Influenza Pneumococcal disease
ADDITIONAL VACCINES FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE	
12–24 months (in high risk areas)	Hepatitis A
18–24 months (in high risk areas)	Pneumococcal disease Hepatitis A
15–49 years (medically at risk)	Influenza Pneumococcal disease
50+ years	Influenza Pneumococcal disease

* May be given depending on vaccine type

** Catch-up program – Vaccine given if not previously immunised

What is Immunisation?

Immunisation protects people against harmful infections before they come into contact with them in the community. Immunisation uses the body's natural defence mechanism – the immune response – to build resistance to specific infections. Immunisation helps people stay healthy by preventing serious infections.

Are there any reasons to delay immunisation?

There are very few medical reasons to delay immunisation. If a person is sick with a high temperature (over 38ºC) then immunisation should be postponed until they have recovered. A person who has a runny nose, but is not ill can be immunised, as can a person who is on antibiotics and obviously recovering from an illness.

What are the side-effects of immunisation?

Common side-effects of immunisation are redness and soreness at the site of an injection and mild fever. More serious reactions to immunisation are very rare, but if they do occur a doctor should be consulted immediately. It is important to remember that vaccines are many times safer than the diseases they prevent.

Where can I get more information about immunisation?

- Ask your doctor, immunisation provider, midwife, or community health nurse;
- Call your State or Territory Health Department;
- Call the Immunise Australia Information Line on 1800 671 811; or
- Visit: www.immunise.health.gov.au

IMMUNISE
AUSTRALIA PROGRAM

An Australian, State and Territory Governments Initiative