

NSW Health

# Vaccines for young people

Easy Read version

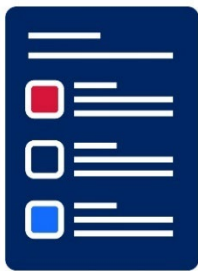


# How to use this document



We are NSW Health.

We wrote this document.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.



You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this document
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

It only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other document on our website.

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/schoolvaccination.aspx](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/schoolvaccination.aspx)

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# What is a vaccine?



A **vaccine** is medicine you usually get through a needle to help your body:

- fight off diseases
- stay healthy.



Vaccines are one of the best ways to protect people from diseases.



You should stay up to date with your vaccines.

# How do you get vaccines for young people?



The vaccines in this document are part of the National Immunisation Program.



This means the government pays for them.

They are free for young people.

You can get the vaccines from:



- the school vaccination program



- your doctor



- a pharmacy.

# What vaccines can young people get in year 7?



People in year 7 are usually **12 or 13 years old**.



There are **2 vaccines** that young people in **year 7** should get:

- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine
- diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine.



We explain these vaccines below.

## HPV vaccine

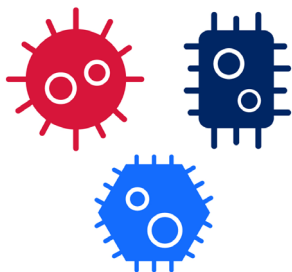


HPV is a virus that can cause:

- **genital warts**
- some cancers.



Genital warts are small bumps on the skin on a person's private parts.



There are many different types of HPV.



This vaccine is very good at stopping HPV from causing:

- genital warts
- cancers.

## Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine

This vaccine protects you from:



- diphtheria
- tetanus
- pertussis.

Pertussis is also called whooping cough.



These 3 diseases are serious and can make people very sick.



This vaccine is good at protecting you from these diseases.



# What vaccines can young people get in year 10?



People in year 10 are usually **14 to 16 years old**.



There is **one vaccine** that young people in **year 10** should get.

## Meningococcal ACWY vaccine

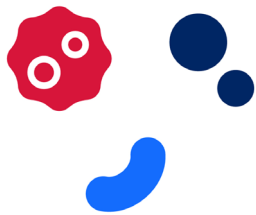


Meningococcal disease is an **infection**.



An infection happens when germs get into your body.

This can make you very sick.



There are different types of meningococcal disease.

The meningococcal ACWY vaccine can protect you against **4** types of meningococcal disease:



- type A
- type C
- type W
- type Y.



Other people with certain health conditions can also get the meningococcal vaccine.

# What is a catch up vaccine?



A catch up vaccine is for people who are not up-to-date with the vaccines they should have.

Some catch up vaccines are also for people who:



- came to Australia because they were not safe in their home country

and



- did not get the vaccine when they were younger.



Catch up vaccines are free.



You can find out what catch up vaccines you can get on our website.

[www.health.gov.au/topics/immunisation/  
immunisation-information-for-health-  
professionals/catch-up-immunisations](http://www.health.gov.au/topics/immunisation/immunisation-information-for-health-professionals/catch-up-immunisations)



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