

NSW Health

Vaccines for children

Easy Read version

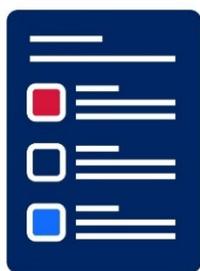


How to use this document



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/app/
Pages/default.aspx](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/app/Pages/default.aspx)

What is in this document?

What is a vaccine? 4

Why should your child get vaccines? 5

When should your child have vaccines? 7

Where can your child get vaccines? 9

How safe are vaccines? 11

Can you see what vaccines your child has? 12

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.

Why should your child get vaccines?



Vaccines are a free and safe way to protect your child.

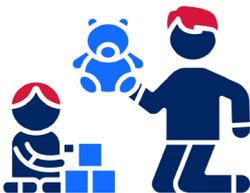
Getting vaccines:



- protects your child from serious diseases



- protects your family and community



- makes it easier to use childcare services



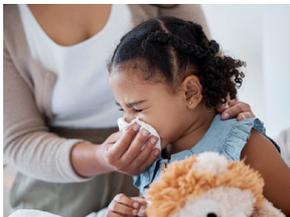
- helps you get some family payments from the government.



It's important to make sure your child gets their vaccines on time.



If your child gets their vaccines late, they could be at risk of getting very sick.



Your child might still be able to get vaccines if they just have a:

- runny nose
- cold.



You can ask your doctor or a nurse if your child should wait to get a vaccine.

When should your child have vaccines?

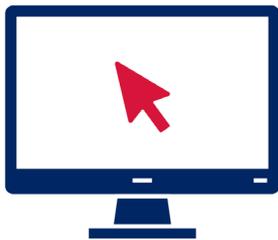


We have experts who plan the best time for your child to get vaccines.



This plan helps to make sure vaccines protect your child when they are most at risk.

You can visit our website to learn:



- what diseases each vaccine protects your child from
- when your child should have each vaccine.

www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/app/Pages/childhood-immunisation-schedule.aspx

Your child will get vaccines:



- when they are born



- at 6 weeks old



- at 4 months old



- at 6 months old



- at 12 months old



- at 18 months old



- at 4 years old.

Where can your child get vaccines?

Your child can get their vaccines from:



- your doctor

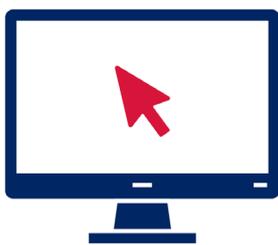


- Aboriginal Medical Services.



You can call your local Public Health Unit to find services near you.

1300 066 055



You can also find your nearest doctor on the healthdirect website.

www.healthdirect.gov.au/australian-health-services

Flu vaccine for children



The flu vaccine is free for children who are:

- **6 months and over**
- **less than 5 years old.**

You can get the flu vaccine for your child from:



- your doctor



- Aboriginal Medical Services.



You can also get the flu vaccine for your child from some pharmacies when your child is **2 or more years old.**

How safe are vaccines?



The Australian Government makes sure vaccines:

- are good for the community
- keep people healthy.



All vaccines are tested before people in the community can get them.



You can find out how the government checks vaccines on the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing website.

www.health.gov.au/topics/immunisation/about-immunisation/vaccine-safety

Can you see what vaccines your child has?



You can get proof of the vaccines your child has.



You might need this for some:

- childcare services
- school services.



You can get this information from the Services Australia website.

www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/australian-immunisation-register



The Information Access Group created this Easy Read document using stock photography and custom images. The images may not be reused without permission. For any enquiries about the images, please visit www.informationaccessgroup.com.

Quote job number 6473.