

Contents:

- Measles
- Who should receive measles vaccine
- MMR vaccine in travel
- Minimum age for MMR vaccine
- 2019 Influenza Program
- Right dose, right age
- Influenza vaccine for newly diagnosed immunocompromised
- Influenza vaccine for > 65 yrs
- Recommended timing of live vaccine doses in adults and children taking corticosteroids
- New guidelines for dTpa in pregnancy
- Recommended timing of live vaccine doses in adults and children taking corticosteroids

Attachments:

- Recommendations for GPs for Public Health Management of Measles Contacts and Suspected Cases

Contact your PHU for Immunisation enquiries

Phone: 1300 066 055

Fax: 4924 6490

Email: HNELHD-PHImmunisation

@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au

Who should receive measles vaccine (MMR) ?

All adolescents and adults born during or since 1966 should have either:

- documented evidence of **2 doses of measles-containing vaccine** given at least 4 weeks apart and with both doses given at ≥ 12 months of age, or
- serological evidence of immunity to measles, mumps and rubella

Adolescents and adults who have been incompletely vaccinated or do not have evidence of immunity to measles are **recommended to receive measles-containing vaccine**. This vaccine is **provided free** in NSW for any person born since 1966 whether they have a medicare card or not.

If in doubt about a person's immunity, it is faster, easier and cheaper to vaccinate the person than conduct serological testing.

Serological testing for immunity to measles (and mumps, rubella and varicella) is not recommended before or after routine administration of the 2-dose childhood schedule of these vaccines.

People born before 1966 do not need to receive measles-containing vaccine, this is because circulating measles virus and disease were prevalent before 1966, so most people would have acquired immunity from natural infection.

It is safe to give MMR to a person who has been immunised before.

Do not give MMR vaccine to women who maybe pregnant or to immunocompromised people



People travelling overseas to places with known measles? **HOT OFF THE PRESS**

The Australian Immunisation Handbook has been updated on 12-04-2019, with recommendations related to MMR for children under 12 months being lowered from 9 months to 6 months, when they are travelling to countries where measles is endemic, or where measles outbreaks are occurring. **It is recommended the 1st dose be repeated if it was given at <11 months of age.**

The NSW Health website provides advice for people travelling overseas in relation to measles vaccine

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/measles/Pages/travellers.aspx>

Q&A includes:

- ◆ How do I know whether I'm protected?
- ◆ What can I do if I'm not protected?
- ◆ What if I've been overseas unprotected?

Resources are available on this site.

Measles is about—see alerts to check for possible local exposures

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/alerts/Pages/default.aspx#>

Influenza vaccine - Right Drug Right Age

Please use FluQuadri Junior for children > 6mths and < 3 years when it is in stock in order to have sufficient supply of Fluarix Tetra available for those > 3 years.

Note the new age indications for Fluarix Tetra (from 6 months of age, previously 3 years) and Afluria (from 5 years of age, previously 18 years)

Two doses of influenza vaccine (in a flu season) only recommended for those with newly diagnosed immunocompromised due to disease or medication.

People aged 65 years and over
All people aged 65 years and over are recommended to have Flud®. This vaccine offers increased protection (especially against influenza A/H3N2 which is more common and severe in the elderly) and this benefit is likely to compensate for any loss of protection against the B strain not included in the vaccine that is provided to individuals less than 65 years of age.

Poster available as a pdf download from here.

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Factsheets/influenza-information-sheet.pdf>



2019 influenza vaccine presentations and eligibility

6 MONTHS TO LESS THAN 3 YEARS OF AGE

FluQuadri™ Junior

- All children aged 6 to 35 months (including Aboriginal children and those with medical risk factors)
- Give two doses one month apart if first year of receiving flu vaccine
- Available in 5 packs
- **Does NOT contain latex**

Pack dimensions
Five packs: 8.9 x 10.4 x 2.5cm



6 MONTHS TO 64 YEARS

Fluarix Tetra®

- All people 6 months to 64 years with medical risk factors predisposing to severe influenza
- Pregnant women
- Give two doses one month apart for children aged 6 months to less than 9 years if first year of receiving flu vaccine
- Available in single and 10 packs
- **Children should receive a full dose (i.e. not a half dose)**
- **Does NOT contain latex in the presentation available in Australia**

Pack dimensions
Singles: 13.5 x 4.3 x 2.4 cm
Ten packs: 17.8 x 10.4 x 4.2 cm



3 YEARS TO 64 YEARS

FluQuadri™

- All children 3 years to less than 5 years
- People 36 months of age to 64 years with medical risk factors predisposing to severe influenza
- All Aboriginal persons 36 months to 64 years
- Pregnant women
- Give two doses one month apart for children aged 3 to less than 9 years if first year of receiving flu vaccine
- FluQuadri available in 5 packs
- **Do not give a half dose**
- **Do not use for children less than 3 years of age**
- **Does NOT contain latex**

Pack dimensions
Five packs: 8.9 x 10.4 x 2.5cm



5 TO 64 YEARS

Afluria Quad®

- People 5 to 64 years of age with medical risk factors predisposing to severe influenza
- All Aboriginal persons 5 to 64 years of age
- Pregnant women
- Available in singles and 10 packs
- Give two doses one month apart for children aged 5 to less than 9 years if first year of receiving flu vaccine.
- **Do not use for children less than 5 years of age**
- **Does NOT contain latex**

Pack dimensions
Singles: 13.2 x 3.3 x 2.6cm
Ten packs: 15.3 x 12.5 x 4cm



65 YEARS AND OVER (only)

Flud®

- Trivalent vaccine
- All persons aged 65 years and over
- **Does NOT contain latex**
- Influenza A(H1N1), A(H3N2) and B-Yamagata strains with MF59C adjuvant
- Milky white suspension
- **Do not use in pregnant women or children**
- Needleless presentation
- Available in singles and 10 packs

Pack dimensions
Singles: 13 x 4 x 3cm
Ten packs: 12.75 x 10.75 x 3.75cm



The **Monthly Influenza Surveillance Report** can be found at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/Influenza/Pages/reports.aspx> .

Influenza and pertussis vaccination in pregnancy

Please note that the evidence around the timing of pertussis vaccination in pregnancy has recently been reviewed and the pertussis-containing vaccine is now recommended as a single dose between 20 and 32 weeks in each pregnancy, including pregnancies that are closely spaced to provide maximal protection to each infant. This advice is reflected in the Australian Immunisation Handbook at www.immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au.

Recommended timing of live vaccine doses in adults and children taking corticosteroids

<https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/resources/handbook-tables/table-recommended-timing-of-live-vaccine-doses-in-adults-and-children>