

Week ending 15 April 20156

## Influenza 2016

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The HNELHD Immunisation Team use a roster system to take calls from providers and the public regarding immunisation questions. To contact an immunisation officer please phone 49246477 or 67648000 then press 1, 1 Email: [phenquiries@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:phenquiries@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au) In the subject line write - Att: immunisation

### HNELHD Immunisation

#### Contact Details:

For Immunisation queries phone 49246477 or 67648000 during working hours Fax: 49246490



**Health**  
Hunter New England  
Local Health District

### Update re. Influenza vaccine deliveries

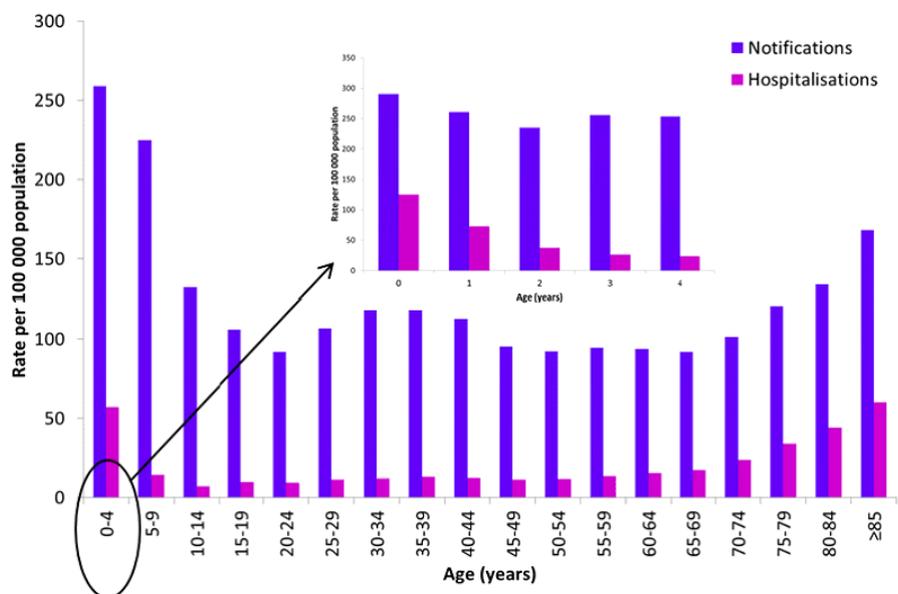
#### Adult:

- All first orders have been delivered
- Second orders have started to be delivered
- We lifted the limit for all customer classes on future orders.

#### Children <3:

- Providers who have placed an order for Fluquadri Junior will start to receive these this week.
- The limit for AMSs has been increased.
- GPs are now able to place another order for 1x5 pack and large practices > 15 GP's another 2 x 5 packs

Figure 4.7.1: Average annual influenza notification and hospitalisation rates for 2010 to 2013,\* Australia, by age group



\* Notifications where the month of diagnosis was between January 2010 and December 2013; hospitalisations (ICD-coded; principal diagnosis) where the month of admission was between January 2010 and December 2013.

Table 2: Recommended doses of influenza vaccine (adapted from *The Australian Immunisation Handbook*, 10th edition, 2015 update)<sup>15</sup>

Age	Dose	Number of doses (first vaccination)	Number of doses (subsequent years)
6 months–<3 years	0.25 mL	2*	1†
3–<9 years	0.5 mL	2*	1†
≥9 years	0.5 mL	1‡	1

\* Two doses at least 4 weeks apart are recommended for children aged <9 years who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time. The same vial should not be re-used for the 2 doses.

† If a child aged 6 months to <9 years of age receiving influenza vaccine for the first time inadvertently does not receive the 2nd dose within the same year, he/she should have 2 doses administered the following year.

‡ People with certain immunocompromising conditions (i.e. haematopoietic stem cell transplant, solid organ transplant) receiving influenza vaccine for the first time post transplant are recommended to receive 2 vaccine doses at least 4 weeks apart (irrespective of age) and 1 dose annually thereafter.

# Egg allergy and vaccines

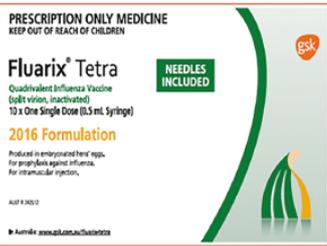
Vaccine type	Method of manufacture	Advice for use
MMR	Cell-based culture (measles and mumps components in chicken fibroblasts)	Can be given to all individuals with egg allergy
Influenza	Egg-based culture (most vaccines)	Can be given to most individuals with egg allergy, including potentially those with anaphylaxis to eggs. See ASCIA guidelines <a href="http://www.allergy.org.au">www.allergy.org.au</a> and The Australian Immunisation Handbook pg. 256
Yellow fever	Egg-based culture	Contraindicated in persons with known severe allergy to eggs. Seek specialist advice.
Q fever	Egg-based culture	Contraindicated in persons with known severe allergy to eggs. Seek specialist advice.
Rabies	Cell-based culture – human diploid cells (HDCV) or purified chick embryo cells (PCECV)	Use HDCV only in individuals with egg allergy.

## Latex in vaccines

In 2016, both Fluarix Tetra® (for people 36 months of age and older) and FluQuadri™ Junior (for children aged 6-35 months) are latex-free.

## 2016 quadrivalent influenza vaccine presentations under the National Immunisation Program





**Fluarix® Tetra**  
Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine  
(split virion, inactivated)  
10 x One Single Dose (0.5 mL Syringe)  
**2016 Formulation**  
Produced in embryonated hens' eggs,  
for prophylaxis against influenza.  
For intramuscular injection.

**Fluarix Tetra® (3 years and over)**

- People 36 months of age and older with medical risk factors predisposing to severe influenza
- All Aboriginal people 36 months of age and older
- Pregnant women
- All persons aged 65 years and over
- **Do not use for children less than 3 years of age**

**DO NOT HALF  
THE ADULT DOSE  
FOR CHILDREN**

**FluQuadri™ Junior (< 3 years)**

- Children aged 6 to 35 months **with medical risk factors ONLY**
- All Aboriginal children aged 6 to 35 months

[www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Publications/influenza-information-sheet.pdf](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Publications/influenza-information-sheet.pdf)



**FluQuadri™ Junior**  
Inactivated  
Quadrivalent  
Influenza Vaccine  
(Split Virion)  
Suspension for intramuscular injection

If you subscribe to the NCIRS Australian Immunisation Professionals email list you receive the Weekly Jab. These are some of the news items reported this week.

### The Weekly Jab

*Your weekly dose of immunisation news*

#### **Research**

#### **[Epidemiology of pertussis-related paediatric intensive care unit \(ICU\) admissions in Australia, 1997–2013: an observational study](#)**

BMJ Open, 2016

This observational study found that intensive care unit admissions for pertussis primarily occur in infants who are too young to be immunised. Therefore it was advised that more needs to be done to protect high-risk infants through maternal immunisation against pertussis.

#### ***In the News – Domestic***

#### **[Flu vaccines: What you need to know](#) (Good to have showing on your practice TV)**

The Sydney Morning Herald, April 12

*The Sydney Morning Herald* has provided a list of reasons to get vaccinated against the flu this year, and have included information about how the flu vaccine is manufactured and tested.

#### ***In the News – International***

#### **[Combined HIV and Hepatitis C virus vaccination a possibility](#)**

EurekAlert, April 13

A new study has found that there was no impairment of immune response in participants when vaccinations against Hepatitis and HIV were administered together.

#### **[Potential role for vaccine in malaria elimination](#)**

Science Daily, April 12

This media release reports that a new vaccine for malaria control is now available, although its performance in sub-Saharan African children has been somewhat disappointing. The vaccine has short-term efficacy, and the World Health Organisation has decided not to recommend its use.

**Gold Coast mum passes on whooping cough to newborn**

**Measles outbreak in Sydney**

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# Recording pertussis and influenza vaccines administered to pregnant women

A label has been developed to record pertussis and influenza vaccinations administered to pregnant women. The label should be affixed to the antenatal 'yellow card' and can be ordered via the Stream Direct Catalogue. This is an interim measure as the yellow card is currently under review and a new section will be added to include pertussis and influenza vaccinations. The updated yellow card will be available in the near future. If you are currently using a stamp on the yellow card, please replace it with the label. If you are using the ObstetriX database, please ensure that pertussis and influenza vaccinations are recorded in the database. Recording the vaccinations on the antenatal 'yellow card' will ensure the sharing of important information between GPs and maternity units.

## Vaccination Details

Patient name: \_\_\_\_\_ MRN: \_\_\_\_\_

### Vaccine(s) administered:

Vaccine (brand name)	Batch number	Vaccination site	Date	Administered by	Signature	Designation

## Summary of changes to the new NSW Immunisation Schedule from 1 April 2016?

The main immunisation schedule changes include the:

1. Introduction of an 18-month diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTPa) booster vaccine for all children born from 1 October 2014;
2. Inclusion of influenza vaccine for Aboriginal children aged 6 months to <5 years;
3. Introduction of Zostavax® vaccine for people aged 70 years (**commences in late November 2016**), and;
4. Removal of the catch-up measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine dose two at 3 ½ to 4 years as all children now receive MMR vaccine at 12 months (dose 1) and measles, mumps, rubella and varicella (MMRV) at 18 months (dose 2 MMR).
5. Removal of the 3½ year schedule point (now fixed at 4 years of age).

Reference [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/nsw-immunisation-schedule-qa.aspx](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/nsw-immunisation-schedule-qa.aspx)