

Immunisation schedule Victoria – February 2023

Infants and children

*Live attenuated vaccine Risk conditions

Age	Disease	Vaccine brand [®]	Reconstitute	Site given	Route given	Notes
Birth	Hepatitis B	H-B-Vax-II paediatric or Engerix-B paediatric	X	Anterolateral thigh	IM	Give preferably within 24 hours of birth May be given up to 7 days after birth
2 months (from 6 weeks) and 4 months	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, poliomyelitis-hepatitis B- <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	Infanrix <i>hexa</i>	✓	Anterolateral thigh	IM	
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	X	Anterolateral thigh	IM	
	Rotavirus	Rotarix*	X	Mouth	Oral	1st dose must be given before 15 weeks of age 2nd dose must be given before 25 weeks of age
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander infants	Meningococcal B	Bexsero	X	Anterolateral thigh	IM	Age appropriate catch-up doses up to <2 years of age until 30 June 2023. Give paracetamol in the 30 minutes before vaccination, or as soon as practicable after the vaccine. Followed by 2 more doses given 6 hours apart.
6 months	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-poliomyelitis-hepatitis B- <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	Infanrix <i>hexa</i>	✓	Anterolateral thigh	IM	Give with an 8-week interval after dose 2 of <i>Infanrix hexa</i> at minimum age of 24 weeks.
6 months of age premature baby < 28 weeks gestation or with a risk condition	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	X	Anterolateral thigh	IM	See the online edition of The Australian Immunisation Handbook (handbook) for dosing schedule
6 months to <5 years - all infants and children	Influenza	As supplied	X	Anterolateral thigh only if < 12 months of age	IM	Annually. In children aged 6 months to less than 9 years of age in the first year of administration, give 2 doses a minimum of 1 month apart
BCG for eligible infants and children	Tuberculosis	As supplied*				BCG* for infants and children under 5 years of age travelling to TB endemic countries

For more risk conditions and vaccinations see **Additional at risk groups (page 6)**

Age	Disease	Vaccine brand [®]	Reconstitute	Site given	Route given	Notes
12 months	Measles-mumps-rubella	Priorix* or M-M-R-II*	✓	Anterolateral thigh/Deltoid	IM/SC	Measles-mumps-rubella vaccines are the least reactogenic in this schedule point
	Meningococcal ACWY	Nimenrix	✓	Deltoid	IM	
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	✗	Deltoid	IM	
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children	Meningococcal B	Bexsero	✗	Anterolateral thigh/Deltoid	IM	Age appropriate catch-up doses up to <2 years of age until 30 June 2023. Give paracetamol in the 30 minutes before vaccination, or as soon as practicable after the vaccine. Followed by 2 more doses given 6 hours apart.
12 months of age premature baby < 32 weeks gestation or < 2000g birthweight	Hepatitis B	H-B-Vax-II Paediatric or Engerix-B Paediatric	✗	Anterolateral thigh/Deltoid	IM	single booster dose
All children >12 months diagnosed with a risk condition	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13 and Pneumovax 23	✗ ✗	Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at increased risk and dosing schedule
18 months	Measles-mumps-rubella-varicella (chickenpox)	PriorixTetra* or ProQuad*	✓	Deltoid	IM/SC	Online edition of the handbook recommends 2nd dose of Varilrix [®] /Varivax [®] to reduce incidence of 'breakthrough' varicella. This MUST be on prescription. Minimum 1 month interval for 2 live vaccines.
	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis	Infanrix or Tripacel	✗	Deltoid	IM	
	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	ActHIB	✓	Anterolateral thigh/Deltoid	IM	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b vaccine is the least reactogenic in this schedule point
4 years	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-poliomyelitis	Infanrix IPV or Quadracel	✗	Deltoid	IM	
4 years of age with a risk condition	Pneumococcal	Pneumovax 23	✗	Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for recommended dosing schedule
5 years of age and over for all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children	Influenza	As supplied	✗	Deltoid	IM	If less than 9 years of age in the first year of administration, give 2 doses a minimum of 1 month apart
5 years of age and over with a risk condition	Influenza	As supplied	✗	Deltoid	IM	If less than 9 years of age in the first year of administration, give 2 doses a minimum of 1 month apart
<i>For more risk conditions and vaccinations see Additional at risk groups (page 6)</i>						

For Recommended needle size and angle of needle insertion see page 6.

This schedule is intended as a guide only and complete consultation with The Australian Immunisation Handbook is recommended.

Age	Disease	Vaccine brand [®]	Reconstitute	Site given	Route given	Notes
Year 7 Secondary school (or age equivalent)	Human papillomavirus (HPV)	Gardasil 9	X	Deltoid	IM	Single dose course. Significant immunocompromising conditions require a 3 dose course (0,2m,6m). See online edition of the handbook for identification of people with significant immunocompromising conditions.
	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis	Boostrix	X	Deltoid	IM	
Year 10 Secondary School (or age equivalent)	Meningococcal ACWY	Nimenrix	✓	Deltoid	IM	
15 to 19 years of age	Meningococcal ACWY	Nimenrix	✓	Deltoid	IM	
All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	Influenza	As supplied	X	Deltoid	IM	Annually
All adolescents diagnosed with a risk condition	Influenza	As supplied	X	Deltoid	IM	Annually. See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at increased risk.
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13 and Pneumovax 23	X	Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at increased risk and dosing schedule.
<i>For more risk conditions and vaccinations see Additional at risk groups (page 6)</i>						

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Age	Disease	Vaccine brand [®]	Reconstitute	Site given	Route given	Notes
All adults diagnosed with a risk condition	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13 Pneumovax 23	X	Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for dosing schedule
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders	Influenza	As supplied	X	Deltoid	IM	Annually
	Hepatitis B	Engerix (paediatric or adult)	X	Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for dosing schedule
Pregnant women	Influenza	As supplied	X	Deltoid	IM	At any stage of pregnancy
	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis	Adacel or Boostrix	X	Deltoid	IM	Pregnant women from 20 weeks gestation during every pregnancy Partners of women in the third trimester if the partner has not received the vaccine in the last 10 years. Parents/guardians of a baby under 6 months of age and they have not received a pertussis booster in the last 10 years.
20-25 years	Human papillomavirus (HPV)	Gardasil 9	X	Deltoid	IM	Available as a catch-up vaccine for young adults who missed adolescent vaccination. Single dose course. Significant immunocompromising conditions require a 3 dose course (0,2m,6m). See online edition of the handbook for identification of people with significant immunocompromising conditions.
People with a risk condition	Influenza	As supplied	X	Deltoid	IM	Annually. See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at increased risk
From 50 years of age Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13 Pneumovax 23	X X	Deltoid Deltoid	IM IM	See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at increased risk and dosing schedule.
From 65 years	Influenza	As supplied	X	Deltoid	IM	Annually. Preferentially use adjuvanted QIV
From 70 years	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	X	Deltoid	IM	
70 years or from 71 to 79 years (until 31 October 2023)	Shingles (Herpes Zoster)	Zostavax*	✓	Deltoid	SC	Single dose See online handbook for the Zostavax screening tool.
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Group	Disease	Vaccine brand [®]	Reconstitute	Site given	Route given	Notes
People of all ages with functional or anatomical asplenia, including sickle cell disease or other haemoglobinopathies, and congenital or acquired asplenia	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13, Pneumovax 23	✗ ✗	Anterolateral thigh/Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at increased risk and dosing schedule.
	Meningococcal B Meningococcal ACWY	Bexsero Nimenrix	✗ ✓	Anterolateral thigh/Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at increased risk and dosing schedule.
	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (HiB)	ActHib	✓	Anterolateral thigh/Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at increased risk and dosing schedule.
Defects in, or deficiency of, complement components, including factor H, factor D or properdin deficiency & current/future treatment with eculizumab	Meningococcal B Meningococcal ACWY	Bexsero Nimenrix	✗ ✓	Anterolateral thigh/Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for identification of people at risk and dosing schedule.
Infants from 6 months and before 11 months of age prior to overseas travel	Measles-mumps-rubella	M-M-R-II*	✓	Anterolateral thigh	IM/SC	This dose is in addition to the scheduled MMR vaccine doses usually administered at ages 12 (MMR) and 18 months (MMRV)
Women planning pregnancy or after delivery	Measles-mumps-rubella	M-M-R-II*	✓	Deltoid	IM/SC	Rubella non-immune women planning pregnancy or shortly after delivery
People born during or since 1966	Measles-mumps-rubella	M-M-R-II*	✓	Deltoid	IM/SC	One or two doses is available for adults without evidence of receiving two documented doses of valid MMR vaccine or without serological evidence of immunity
All people under 20 years of age	Age appropriate vaccine catch-up	As supplied	As applicable	As applicable	As applicable	Eligible for NIP and Victorian funded immunisation programs. The catch-up schedule will need to commence on or before the child's 20th birthday and may be completed beyond this date, as required
All refugees and humanitarian entrants including asylum seekers	Age appropriate vaccine catch-up	As supplied	As applicable	As applicable	As applicable	Eligible for NIP and Victorian funded immunisation programs. This includes asylum seekers who may not be eligible for Medicare
Vulnerable citizens	Age appropriate vaccine catch-up	As supplied	As applicable	As applicable	As applicable	Eligible for NIP and Victorian funded immunisation programs
Hepatitis B vaccine for eligible people at risk	Hepatitis B	Engerix-B (paediatric /adult)	✗	Deltoid	IM	See online edition of the handbook for dosing schedule. All non immune Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people Household contacts or sexual partners of people living with hepatitis B infection People who inject drugs or are on opioid substitution therapy People living with hepatitis C Men who have sex with men People living with HIV Prisoners and remandees People no longer in a custodial setting who commenced but did not complete the vaccine course People from endemic countries and who arrived in Australia in the last 10 years. (Priority countries include China, Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Thailand, South Korea, Myanmar (Burma) Indonesia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Cambodia)
Rabies vaccine for eligible people at risk	Rabies	As supplied	✓	Deltoid	IM	Volunteer handler of Australian bats in Victoria for the primary course Post exposure prophylaxis

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Recommended needle size and angle of needle insertion

Infants and children

Intramuscular injection (IM)	Needle size	Angle of needle insertion
Infants and children	23G/25G, 25mm length	90° to skin plane
Pre-term babies and very small babies	25G/23G, 16mm length	90° to skin plane

Subcutaneous injection (SC)	Needle size	Angle of needle insertion
In all persons	25G/26G, 16mm length	45° to skin plane

Adolescents

Intramuscular injection (IM)	Needle size	Angle of needle insertion
Adolescent	23G/25G, 25mm length	90° to skin plane
Very large adolescent	23G/25G, 38mm length	90° to skin plane

Subcutaneous injection (SC)	Needle size	Angle of needle insertion
In all persons	25G/26G, 16mm length	45° to skin plane

Adults

Intramuscular injection (IM)	Needle size	Angle of needle insertion
Adults	23G/25G, 25mm length	90° to skin plane
Very large adult	23G/25G, 38mm length	90° to skin plane

Subcutaneous injection (SC)	Needle size	Angle of needle insertion
In all persons	25G/26G, 16mm length	45° to skin plane

Additional at risk groups

Intramuscular injection (IM)	Needle size	Angle of needle insertion
In all persons	23G/25G, 25mm length	90° to skin plane
Very large person	23G/25G, 38mm length	90° to skin plane

Subcutaneous injection (SC)	Needle size	Angle of needle insertion
In all persons	25G/26G, 16mm length	45° to skin plane

Further information

The Australian Immunisation Handbook: online edition or mobile app <<https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au>>

Department of Health: immunisation@health.vic.gov.au

Australian Immunisation Register: 1800 653 809

SAEFVIC – Victoria’s vaccine safety service: 1300 882 924 #1