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| Approved Client Groups |
| Approved client groups for vaccination by nurse immunisers |
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Version control

| Version | Change |
| --- | --- |
| May 2007 | Human Papillomavirus included |
| October 2014 | Minor edit |
| January 2022 | General notes: Time limited, specified vaccines for a defined refugee program in a defined area as approved by the Chief Health Officer. |
| May 2022 | Japanese Encephalitis vaccine included |
| August 2022 | Updated date of time-limited activity page 8 |
| October 2022 | Monkeypox vaccine included Zoster/Herpes zoster inclusion clarified |
| February 2023 | Extension of the Chief Health Officer time limited approval within the scope of the refugee vaccination PRIME project (see General notes) Updated nomenclature for Monkeypox to Mpox |

# Approved client groups

**Standard vaccination procedures must be followed according to The Australian immunisation handbook current at the time of administration.**

## Diphtheria

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against diphtheria include:

immunisation of children and adults as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer

* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation of contacts in the event of a case of diphtheria, unless directed by the Department of Healthb
* immunisation with diphtheria antitoxinc

## Tetanus

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against tetanus include:

• immunisation of children and adults as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer

• immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in The Australian immunisation handbook current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation for tetanus prophylaxis related to wound managementd
* immunisation with tetanus immunoglobulinc

## Pertussis

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against pertussis include:

* immunisation of children as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation of contacts in the event of a case of pertussis, unless directed by the Department of Healthb

## Measles

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against measles include:

* immunisation of children as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation of contacts in the event of a case of measles, unless directed by the Department of Healthb
* immunisation with normal human immunoglobulin for the prophylaxis of measles when in contact with a casec

## Mumps

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against mumps include:

* immunisation of children as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in The Australian immunisation handbook current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation of contacts in the event of a case of mumps, unless directed by the Department of Healthb
* immunisation with normal human immunoglobulin for the prophylaxis of mumps when in contact with a casec

## Rubella

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against rubella include:

* immunisation of children as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of non-pregnant seronegative women of childbearing agee
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in The Australian immunisation handbook current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation of contacts in the event of a case of rubella, unless directed by the Department of Healthb
* immunisation with normal human immunoglobulin for the prophylaxis of rubella when contact with a casec

## Poliomyelitis

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against poliomyelitis include:

* immunisation of children as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in The Australian immunisation handbook current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation of immunocompromised personsf

## Haemophilus influenzae type b

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) infections include:

* immunisation of children as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in The Australian immunisation handbook current at the time of administration

## Hepatitis B

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against hepatitis B include:

1. immunisation of children as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
2. immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation following acute exposure to potentially infected blood or bodily fluidsg
* immunisation with hepatitis B immunoglobulin following acute exposure to potentially infected blood or bodily fluidsc,g

## Hepatitis A

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against hepatitis A include:

* immunisation of children and adults as per the recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation of contacts of a case of hepatitis A, unless directed by the Department of Healthb
* immunisation with normal human immunoglobulin for the prophylaxis of hepatitis A when in contact with a casec

## Influenza

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against influenza include:

* immunisation of children and adults as per the recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa

## Meningococcal infections

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against meningococcal disease include:

* immunisation of children and adults as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
* immunisation of contacts in the event of a case of meningococcal, unless directed by the Department of Healthb

## Pneumococcal infections

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against pneumococcal infections include**:**

* immunisation of children and adults as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

1. immunisation for travel purposesa

## Varicella/Zoster/Herpes zoster

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against varicella include**:**

* immunisation of children as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule or as approved by the Victorian Chief Health Officer
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

* immunisation for travel purposesa
1. immunisation with Zoster immunoglobulin for prophylaxis when in contact with a casec

## Human Papillomavirus

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against human papillomavirus include**:**

* immunisation of children and adults as per the recommendations in the Australian Immunisation Handbook current at the time of administration
* immunisation of children and adults as per the catch-up vaccination and other variations to the schedule recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration

### but exclude:

1. immunisation for travel purposesa

## Rotavirus

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine against rotavirus include**:**

* immunisation of infants as per the recommendations in *The Australian immunisation handbook* current at the time of administration.

## Japanese encephalitis

Nurse Immunisers who are administering the Japanese encephalitis vaccine to eligible individuals in Victoria must first complete the Japanese encephalitis eLearning module that has been approved by the Deputy Chief Health Officer – Communicable Disease. This training can be accessed free from: <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/nurse-immuniser-study-programs>

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against Japanese encephalitis include**:**

* people recommended for vaccination as listed on the Victorian Department of Health’s Japanese encephalitis in Victoria webpage[[1]](#footnote-2) as amended from time to time.

### but exclude:

1. people not recommended for vaccination
2. immunisation for travel purposesa

## Mpox (monkeypox)

Nurse Immunisers who are administering the mpox (monkeypox) vaccine to eligible individuals in Victoria must first complete the Mpox (monkeypox) eLearning module that has been approved by the Deputy Chief Health Officer – Communicable Disease. This training can be accessed free from: <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/nurse-immuniser-study-programs>

Approval for nurses to immunise with vaccine(s) against mpox (monkeypox) include**:**

* people recommended for vaccination as listed on the [Victorian Department of Health’s Mpox (monkeypox) webpage](https://www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases/monkeypox) as amended from time to time.

### but exclude:

1. people not recommended for vaccination
2. vaccination for travel purposes other than those people recommended for vaccination as listed on the Department of Health’s Mpox (monkeypox) webpage
3. vaccination of people with contraindications defined in the current edition of the Australian Immunisation Handbook (or current recommendations issued by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI).

# General notes

Contraindications must be observed as in The Australian immunisation handbook current at the time of administration. Due to the nature of some medical conditions especially involving immunosuppression, the final decision that immunisation is indicated should be made by the individual’s treating doctor due to the specialist nature of the condition.

Valid consent must be obtained for each immunisation in accordance with the protocol listed in *The Australian immunisation handbook* that is current at the time of administration. The process of establishing if contra-indications exist and valid consent given must include the use of a Pre-Immunisation Checklist\*\* given to the parent/person to be immunised.

Cold chain must be maintained as per the recommendations of the National Vaccine Storage *Guidelines Strive for 5,* which is current at the time of administration.

Notification that a vaccine has been given must be sent to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

A reasonable check of the client’s immunisation history must be undertaken before immunisation.

The Chief Health Officer has approved in the defined local government areas of the City of Greater Dandenong, City of Whittlesea, Hume City Council and the City of Casey within the scope of the ‘Program for Refugee Immunisation Monitoring and Education (PRIME), nurse immunisers employed or contracted by these councils, to administer the childhood formulation six-valent Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis | Polio | Hepatitis B | Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine (DTPa-IPV-Hep B-Hib) and the combination Measles-Mumps-Rubella-Varicella (MMRV) vaccine to adolescents up to the age of 18 years. This is a time-limited activity until 31 December 2023.

The client should be advised where they can access a record of their immunisation(s) administered.

1. Travel medicine is a specialist area that should include a medical consultation.
2. A case of this vaccine preventable disease is notifiable to the Department of Health under the Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1990. Department of Health will provide advice on the further management of the case and contacts.
3. Approval to immunise does not include the administration of immunoglobulin preparations.
4. Tetanus prone wounds should be reviewed in a medical consultation.
5. Seronegative women of childbearing age who are being immunised with rubella containing vaccine should be advised to have rubella serology performed two months after immunisation to check immune status.
6. Although immunisation is indicated, the final decision that immunisation is indicated should be made by the individual’s treating doctor due to the specialist nature of the condition.
7. Should require consultation with infection control specialist.

\*\*Resources available at: <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/immunisation-resources-order-form>

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1. Japanese encephalitis virus, <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases/japanese-encephalitis-virus> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)