



Centre for Disease Control

NT HEALTH

Immunisation Update

Issued: 10 April 2024

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Influenza vaccines 2024

Annual vaccination is the most important measure to prevent influenza and its complications. It is recommended for all people aged 6 months and over.

The **2024 influenza vaccine is now available** and clinics have started to receive their 2024 stock. Offer the vaccine to eligible people as soon as it becomes available, and continue throughout the year as the **influenza virus can circulate all year especially in the northern parts of Australia.**

The 2024 NIP funded vaccines are

- **Vaxigrip Tetra® or Fluarix Tetra®** for
 - all children 6 months to < 5 years
 - all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people age 6 months to 64 years
 - all pregnant women at any stage during pregnancy
 - people aged 6 months and over with certain medical conditions that increase their risk of severe influenza and its complications.

Fluad Quad® for all people 65 years and over.

2024 influenza information and resources

Health professional information

[ATAGI statement on the administration of seasonal influenza vaccines in 2024](#)

[2024 influenza vaccination – Program advice for health professionals](#)

Consumer resources

[Influenza vaccination resources for consumers](#)



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Current 2024 COVID-19 vaccine advice

Vaccination remains the most important measure to protect those at risk of severe disease from COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines can be co-administered (given on the same day) with any other vaccine for people aged ≥ 5 years.

COVID-19 vaccines are recommended for people aged 65 years and over and for people who are severely immunocompromised aged 18-64 years (see table below for further details about timing).

The number of previous doses is not important however the **time from last dose, age and risk factors should be used to determine eligibility in 2024.**

People under 18 years, unless severely immunocompromised are not recommended for additional COVID-19 vaccines in 2024.

Age	With severe immunocompromise #	Without severe immunocompromise #
≥ 75 years	Recommended every 6 months	Recommended every 6 months
65-74 years	Recommended every 12 months and can consider a dose every 6 months	Recommended every 12 months and can consider a dose every 6 months
18-64 years	Recommended every 12 months and can consider a dose every 6 months	Can consider a dose every 12 months
5-17 years	Can consider a dose every 12 months	Not recommended
< 5 years	Not recommended	Not recommended

#See the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) for definitions and examples of severe immunocompromise

2024 COVID-19 information and resources

Health professional information

[ATAGI statement on the administration of COVID-19 vaccines in 2024](#)

[Recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines comparison A3 poster](#)

Consumer resources

[COVID-19 vaccine advice and recommendations for 2024](#)



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Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common virus that can infect people of all ages. It is most serious in infants, young children and older adults.

Older children, adolescents and adults can still develop RSV disease, but it is less common for them to develop severe illness.

RSV can cause a range of respiratory illnesses – from mild respiratory infection to severe conditions such as bronchiolitis (in infants) and pneumonia.

There are two RSV vaccines that have received TGA approval (**Arexvy** and **Abrysvo**). Arexvy is now available on the private market and it is approved for use in people **aged 60 years and over only**. See the [ATAGI clinical statement on clinical use of Arexvy](#).

Passive immunisation of infants is possible using **monoclonal antibodies** that contain pre-made antibodies and can prevent severe RSV disease.

At this time there is no nationally funded RSV vaccine in Australia. Some states, (WA/QLD and NSW) have funded a private supply of RSV monoclonal antibodies.

NCIRS has the updates of availability of RSV vaccines here - [Evaluation and expected access to new RSV vaccines and long-acting monoclonal antibody \(mAB\) in Australia as at 25 March 2024.pdf \(ncirs.org.au\)](#)

Also see [Respiratory syncytial virus \(RSV\): Frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#) on the NCRIS website for further information on RSV vaccines and monoclonal antibodies.



Q Fever Register Closure

The **Q Fever Register** (which is owned and funded by the Australian Meat Processor Corporation and administered by AUS-MEAT) is **closing**.

From **15 April 2024** vaccination providers will no longer report Q fever vaccine information to the **Q Fever Register** but **will be required to record the vaccines and natural immunity information on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)**.

Individuals who have previously been vaccinated can access their vaccination/immunity information from the Q Fever Register [Home Page - Australian Q Fever Register](#), or contact the Register on **1300 733 837**.

They can download or request a copy of their eStatement and present the eStatement to their vaccine provider for recording the information to AIR.

This information will be available on the Q Fever Register **until 30 June 2025**.

Be Measles Alert

Measles has been reported in people returning to Australia from overseas travel, now is the time to check that all people born after 1966 are **up to date with their measles vaccination**.

Measles Prevention

The best protection against measles is vaccination with a measles containing vaccine.

- Children receive their **1st dose of MMR vaccine at 12 months and 2nd dose at 18 months**.
- **Children travelling overseas to high risk areas before 12 months** can have a MMR vaccine from **6 months of age** followed by 2 age appropriate MMR vaccines.
- The measles vaccination schedule changed in the 1990's and some adults may have only received 1 MMR vaccine. **Adults born during or since 1966** are recommended to receive **2 doses of measles containing vaccines**.
- Anyone planning overseas travel should make sure they have received appropriate travel vaccines including MMR.



For more information see the NT Health Measles Fact Sheet [Measles \(nt.gov.au\)](https://www.nt.gov.au/health/immunisation/nt-health-measles-fact-sheet)

Click the [Immunisation program | NT Health](#) link or scan the QR code to access the Immunisation Program webpage for more information and resources



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