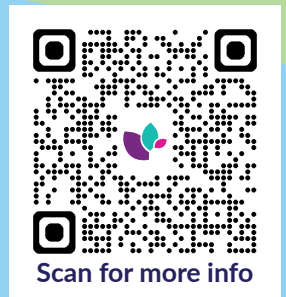


# School Based Immunisation Program

Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (dTpa) and Human papilloma virus (HPV)



Scan for more info

[nt.gov.au/wellbeing/healthy-living/immunisation/child-vaccinations](https://nt.gov.au/wellbeing/healthy-living/immunisation/child-vaccinations)

## Diphtheria

Diphtheria is caused by a bacteria that can spread from person to person by inhaling droplets from the nose or throat such as saliva and mucus (snot). It is sometimes spread by direct contact with infected or open sores or blisters. It can be fatal.

The infection can:



**make it hard to breathe**



**damage your heart**



**make you feel weak**

## Tetanus

Tetanus causes painful spasms that interrupts breathing and are often fatal. Tetanus causing bacteria are found in soil, dust and manure and can enter the body through a small wound. 2 in 100 people who get tetanus can die.

The bacteria can:



**damage your heart**



**damage your lungs**

## Pertussis

Pertussis (whooping cough) is a highly contagious respiratory disease that is spread from an infected person through coughing, sneezing and saliva. The disease causes severe bouts of coughing and vomiting. 9 out of 10 unvaccinated people can contract pertussis if exposed to an infected person in the same household.

It can be fatal as well as:



**damage your lungs**



**damage your brain**



**make you cough for up to 3 months**



If you need an interpreter we can book one for you.

## HPV

HPV is spread through all types of sexual activity. People with HPV often have no symptoms and can pass it to others without knowing.

Most people clear HPV infections, but the virus persists in some cases. People with persistent HPV infection are at risk of developing HPV-associated cancers; the most common is cervical cancer.

HPV infection can also cause genital warts and cancers of the penis, anus, vulva, vagina, throat and mouth. The HPV vaccine protects against 9 strains of HPV that cause over 95% of HPV-related cancers.



## Eligibility

In the Northern Territory, the adult diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (dTpa) vaccine is available to all adolescents in Year 7 and up to 19 years of age. The HPV vaccine is available to all adolescents in Year 7 and up to 26 years of age.

If your child cannot be vaccinated at school or misses out because of illness or absence, you can visit a health clinic, pharmacy or GP for vaccination. The vaccine is free; however you may be charged a consultant fee. To keep your child protected, missed vaccines need to be caught up as soon as possible.

## What to expect post-vaccine

For 1-2 days after having the vaccine you may experience:



**a sore arm where the needle was given**



**a headache**



**sore muscles**



**a temperature**



**tiredness or feeling unwell**

A cool cloth on the injection site and taking some paracetamol will relieve symptoms. Severe allergic reactions are very rare.