

Issued: **October 2026**
Issued to: **Vaccine providers**

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COVID-19 vaccine now available under the NIP

From 1 October 2026, COVID-19 vaccines are funded under the National Immunisation Program (NIP) and remain the best protection against severe COVID-19 illness.

Health professionals are encouraged to **review vaccination status** at every opportunity and promote recommended COVID-19 booster doses. The following groups are eligible to receive NIP funded COVID-19 vaccines:

Age	Brand/ Route	NIP funded	Important information
75 years and over	Comirnaty [®] IMI	✓	2 doses per year, 6 months apart
65 to 74 years	Comirnaty [®] IMI	✓	1 dose per year
50 to 74 years Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	Comirnaty [®] IMI	✓	1 dose per year
18 to 64 years with severe immunocompromise	Comirnaty [®] IMI	✓	1 dose per year

People not eligible for a free COVID-19 vaccine may choose to purchase the vaccine privately based on a risk benefit discussion with their healthcare provider.

All clinics who are authorised to store and administer NIP vaccines can now order COVID-19 vaccines using the vaccine order form downloaded from [Immunisation program | NT Health](#).

For more information about COVID-19 vaccine recommendations and eligibility, refer to [COVID-19 | The Australian Immunisation Handbook](#)

Measles vaccination

As large outbreaks of measles continue overseas and imported measles cases continue to be reported in Australia (119 measles cases year to date in 2026), it is important to ensure people are up to date with their measles vaccines.

Prevention

Measles is highly contagious but preventable through vaccination.

Check all clients' vaccination status and ensure anyone born during or after 1966 has **2 documented doses of measles-containing vaccine given at least 4 weeks apart, or evidence of immunity**.

This is particularly important for people planning to travel overseas, who have a higher risk of exposure. [1.7 million Australians unprotected against measles, raising the risk of local outbreaks | NCIRS](#)

Who is eligible for measles vaccine?

Measles-containing vaccine is recommended for:

- children ≥12 months of age
- anyone born during or after 1966 who have not received 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine
- people planning overseas travel
- occupational risk including healthcare workers

All children aged 12 months and over require 2 doses of measles-containing vaccine at 12 and 18 months.

Children as young as 6 months of age can receive MMR vaccine before overseas travel and during outbreaks. **They will still require the scheduled doses at 12 and 18 months.**

For further information refer to [Measles | The Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) and [Measles | NT Health](#)

Diphtheria vaccine schedule

NT Diphtheria Outbreak Immunisation Schedule has been updated to include **all NT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from 9 years of age**. These children are recommended to receive an additional age-appropriate diphtheria toxoid containing vaccine dose if it has been more than 5 years since their last dose. [Diphtheria information for health professionals | NT Health](#)

Maintaining high vaccine coverage is essential to protect against diphtheria and reduce the risk of outbreaks. Check AIR records and offer an age-appropriate diphtheria containing vaccine to all eligible clients. For further information refer to [Diphtheria | NT.GOV.AU](#)

NT Immunisation Diphtheria schedule - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Cohort	Recommendation	Vaccine
All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 9yrs to less than 10 years	DTPa - Additional age-appropriate dose if more than 5 years since last dose. Always ensure catch up under the NIP is complete.	Infanrix® or Tripacel®
All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 10 years and over	dTpa - Additional dose if more than 5 years since last dose	Boostrix® or Adacel®

Make every visit count

Make every visit a vaccine opportunity

Every healthcare encounter is an opportunity to protect against vaccine preventable diseases.

Check clients' vaccination status and get them back on track with catch-up vaccinations. Consider targeting the following groups that may need additional vaccines:

- children under 5 years of age,
- pregnant women, and
- older Australians.

Download these posters from [Immunisation program | NT Health](https://www.immunisationprogram.nt.gov.au/immunisation-program-nt-health) to begin the conversation with your clients.



Immunisation education for vaccine providers

The CDC Immunisation team delivers free immunisation education sessions for vaccine providers via Microsoft Teams. All vaccine providers are welcome to attend.

When: Fortnightly on Wednesdays, 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

Next session: 4 November, 12:30 pm

To receive a Teams invitation, please email ImmunisationProgramNT.health@nt.gov.au

Stay informed, build your immunisation knowledge, and keep up to date with the latest program and vaccine information.

Influenza – It's not too late to vaccinate

It is not too late to vaccinate against influenza.

Influenza (commonly known as flu) activity is increasing across the Northern Territory, and vaccination remains the best protection against severe illness and hospitalisation.

Annual influenza vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 6 months and over.

Continue to promote influenza vaccination, particularly for young children, pregnant women, all adults 65 years and over, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and people with chronic medical conditions.

Refer to [Influenza \(flu\) | The Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) for more information.

NT Immunisation Schedule-Influenza

Age		Brand/Route	NIP Funded	Important information
6 months to less than 5 years		Vaxigrip® (IMI)	✓	Children aged 6 months to < 2 years receiving influenza vaccine for the first time give 2 doses 4 weeks apart
Pregnant women			✓	Every pregnancy, any trimester
5 years to less than 65 years	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	Vaxigrip® (IMI)	✓	Annually
	People with specified medical conditions	Flucelvax® (IMI)	✓	Children with medical risk conditions aged 6 months to < 9 years receiving influenza vaccine for the first time give 2 doses 4 weeks apart
65 years and over		Fluad® (IMI)	✓	Annually

[Influenza vaccines – frequently asked questions \(FAQs\) | NCIRS](#)

Dengue Vaccine - QDenga®

Qdenga® is now available in Australia for eligible travellers at risk of exposure to dengue in endemic regions.

Qdenga® is the only dengue vaccine currently available in Australia, it is registered for use in people 4 years and over **and is self-funded**.

A 2-dose course is required, with doses administered 12 weeks (3 months) apart for optimal protection

ATAGI recommendations vary according to dengue exposure risk, previous dengue infection history, local epidemiology, and those with occupational exposure risk.

Qdenga is a live attenuated vaccine and is contraindicated in immunocompromised people.

For more information;

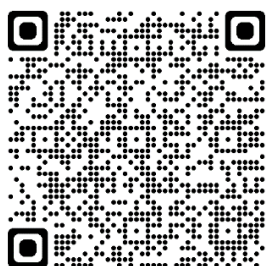
[ATAGI statement on the Clinical use of the Dengue vaccine Qdenga for Australians](#)

Act-HIB® - available in 10 packs only

From October 2026, Act-HIB vaccine will be available in multi-dose 10-packs only.

Be mindful when ordering Act-HIB® as it is only NIP funded for use at the 18-month scheduled vaccines, as a catchup till 5 years of age and for patients who have had a splenectomy.

Scan below for more Immunisation updates



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