



Centre for Disease Control

NT HEALTH

Immunisation Update

Issued: 01/10/2024
Issued to: Vaccine providers

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New Scheduled Substance Treatment Protocol (SSTP)

The primary SSTP for vaccination in the NT has been recently updated: [Immunisation Scheduled Substance Treatment Protocol \(SSTP for Nurses, Midwives and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners\)](#)

Nurses, Midwives and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners (ATSIHP) can legally administer a vaccine without a doctor's order or prescription where it is in line with a Scheduled Substance Treatment Protocol.

This protocol enables vaccine providers to administer Australian Immunisation Handbook (AIH) recommended vaccines for certain groups and applies to vaccines provided under funded programs (eg; National Immunisation Program) as well as those privately funded.

To administer vaccines in accordance with this protocol Nurses, Midwives and ATISHP are required to have completed either;

- A HESA approved course [Health Education Services Australia | Accredited Programs \(hesa.com.au\)](https://hesa.com.au) **or**
- A course of study approved by the NT Chief Health Officer this includes the NT About Giving Vaccine Course (pre 2018)

AND

- Hold a current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certificate

Maintaining competency

All Nurses, Midwives and ATSIHP must maintain professional competency in the delivery of vaccines, this can include formal education modules (eg the online NT About Giving Vaccines Upskilling course [eLearning | NT Remote Locum Program \(ntrlp.com.au\)](#)), seminars/webinars and self-directed learning.

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Public Health Division

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Hep B Vaccine Eligibility

There is specific eligibility for funded Hepatitis B Vaccine in the Northern Territory.

Refer to the NT immunisation Schedule [Immunisation program | NT Health](#) and the table below.

Eligible group	Brand
Children and adolescents aged 0-19 years <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Birth dose• Catch up dose only if combination childhood vaccines are not suitable	HB-Vax-II® Paediatric OR Engerix B® Paediatric NIP funded (National Immunisation Program)
Refugees and Humanitarian entrants aged 20 years and over	HB-Vax-II® Adult NIP funded (National Immunisation Program)
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults 20-50 years not previously fully vaccinated AND not immune through disease	Engerix B® Adult NT funded
Non immune household and sexual contacts of people with hepatitis B infection as per CDC Surveillance Unit advice	Engerix B® Adult NT funded

People NOT eligible for a free Hepatitis B Vaccine

Adults 20 years and over who do not meet any of the above criteria are **not eligible for a FREE course of Hepatitis B vaccines** and will need to purchase the vaccine privately through their healthcare provider(s).

MenQuadfi® - Meningococcal ACWY Vaccine for Adolescents

From 1 July 2024, MenQuadfi® will be funded under the National Immunisation Program (NIP) for adolescents aged 14-19 years.

While the initial vaccine rollout of MenQuadfi® is in progress, Nimenrix® will also be available to this age group.

There is no change to the NIP funded Meningococcal ACWY vaccines for any other eligible cohort. Children aged 12 months and people with specific medical conditions will continue to receive Nimenrix®.

MenQuadfi® will be supplied as a ready to use formulation in 0.5ml vials, initially in single boxes.

For more information see [Meningococcal disease | The Australian Immunisation Handbook \(health.gov.au\)](#)

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Following Vaccination— what to expect and what to do

Following vaccination— what to expect and what to do



[Following vaccination - what to expect and what to do | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care](#) has recently been updated and is **now available to download and to order**.

It provides easy to read information on common reactions that may occur following vaccination.

Scan below for more of our Immunisation updates



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