

NSW Health will recommence school vaccination in some schools in Term 4 2021

Please distribute this information to all practice or clinic staff

1. Closure of schools in Terms 3 and 4 has interrupted NSW Health's routine school-based vaccination program.
2. Adolescents may present to general practice for routine HPV, dTpa or MenACWY vaccination in the interim
3. Providers are encouraged to offer a free HPV, dTpa or MenACWY vaccine to eligible students upon request

Background

- In 2021 NSW Health has been offering human papillomavirus (HPV) and diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa) vaccination in Year 7 and Meningococcal ACWY vaccination in Year 10 at school

YEAR	VACCINE	NUMBER OF DOSES
Year 7	Human papillomavirus (HPV)	2 doses at least 6 months apart
	Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (dTpa)	1 dose
Year 10	Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY)	1 dose

- School vaccination data are routinely uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) to provide a complete vaccination history for adolescents
- School vaccination has been disrupted by the COVID-19 epidemic in NSW
- **Vaccination is taking place in some schools** in Term 4, with plans for state-wide, school-based catch-up vaccination of the 2021 cohort in 2022

GP vaccination

- Adolescents may present to general practice for the vaccinations listed above
- HPV, dTpa and MenACWY vaccine are provided free to immunisation providers under the National Immunisation Program for individuals up to 19 years of age
- Providers can order the vaccines for eligible adolescents using NSW Health's online vaccine ordering system at <https://nsw.tollhealthcare.com/>
- Providers are encouraged to provide a free HPV, dTpa or MenACWY vaccine to eligible adolescents **upon request**, noting that vaccination history should be checked beforehand on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) to ensure that:
 - minimum dosing intervals have been observed, particularly for HPV vaccination (6 months between dose 1 and dose 2), and
 - the vaccines have not previously been given due to possible poor recall

More information

- NSW School Vaccination Program at www.health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination
- Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) at www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/health-professionals/services/medicare/australian-immunisation-register-health-professionals
- Free catch-up vaccines for 10-19 year olds at www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/free-catch-up-vaccines-for-10-to-19-year-olds-fact-sheet

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