

Revaccination of bone marrow transplant (BMT) recipients

Updated advice on available vaccines 7 February 2025

General practitioners and Aboriginal medical services

Please distribute to all doctors and staff in your practice

1. *From 7 February 2025, NSW Health will be funding vaccines for revaccination of bone marrow transplant (BMT) recipients through their general practitioner or Aboriginal medical service.*
2. *The Australian Immunisation Handbook recommends that people with hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT), including BMTs, require revaccination regardless of their previous vaccination history. This is to reduce the risk of infectious diseases.*
3. *A new BMT vaccine order form is available from the NSW Vaccine Centre vaccine ordering page to order vaccines for eligible patients.*

Introduction of NSW Health revaccination program for BMT recipients

- From 7 February 2025, vaccines recommended for BMT recipients that are not funded under the National Immunisation Program will be funded by NSW Health.
- General practitioners and Aboriginal medical services will be able to provide free vaccines to BMT recipients.

Eligibility

- Protective immunity to vaccine-preventable diseases is partially or completely lost after BMT due to chemoradiotherapy and long-term immunosuppression.
- BMT recipients should be routinely revaccinated post-BMT, regardless of their previous vaccination history to gain immunity to vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Post-transplantation revaccination uptake in adults is suboptimal.
- Immunisation providers should ensure education and counselling about the need for revaccination is provided to BMT recipients as part of their care.
- Recommendations for revaccination of BMT recipients is available in the Australian Immunisation Handbook *Vaccination for people who are immunocompromised* chapter.

Online ordering process

- A new BMT vaccine order form is available on NSW Vaccine Centre vaccine ordering page at <https://nsw.tollhealthcare.com/>.
- An order form must be completed for each individual requiring revaccination. Please ensure the order form is completed ahead of the patient's appointment. Routine delivery timeframes apply.

Further information

- Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI) BMT vaccination record *Vaccination record - Blood and marrow transplant (BMT) recipients ≥10 years of age*

- ACI Blood and Marrow Transplant + Cellular Therapies Network webpage
<https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/networks/bmtct>
- NSW Immunisation Schedule <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Publications/nsw-immunisation-schedule.pdf>
- Australian Immunisation Handbook <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccination-for-special-risk-groups/vaccination-for-people-who-are-immunocompromised#haematopoietic-stem-cell-transplant-recipients>
- Contact your local Public Health Unit on **1300 066 055**.