

Childhood Immunisation Schedule changes from 1 September 2025

Prevenar 20 added to the National Immunisation Program for children

General Practitioners and Aboriginal Medical Services

Please distribute to all staff in your practice

1. *From 1 September 2025, Prevenar 20, a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine will replace Prevenar 13 and Pneumovax 23 on the National Immunisation Program (NIP) childhood schedule.*
2. *All Aboriginal children are now recommended to receive Prevenar 20 at 6 weeks, 4, 6 and 12 months of age (4 dose schedule).*
3. *Prevenar 20 will be available to order from the State Vaccine Centre from midday 18 August 2025 at <https://nsw.tollhealthcare.com>*

Introduction of Prevenar 20 to the Immunisation Schedule

- From 1 September 2025, Prevenar 20 will be introduced on the NIP to replace Prevenar 13 and Pneumovax 23 on the childhood schedule.
- Prevenar 20 is a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine and protects against 20 strains of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* offering broader serotype coverage than Prevenar 13.
- Prevenar 13 will continue to be available for Aboriginal people aged 50 years and over and non-Aboriginal people aged 70 years and over.
- From 1 September 2025, children aged 5 years and under, who have
 - not yet started their pneumococcal schedule should receive 3 doses of Prevenar 20
 - previously received 1 or 2 doses of Prevenar 13 should complete their schedule with Prevenar 20
 - already completed a Prevenar 13 vaccination course and who are due for Pneumovax 23 should receive 1 dose of Prevenar 20 instead.
- Resources Information and resources about inclusion of Prevenar 20 on the NIP will be available on Australian Government website from 1 September 2025 at:
<https://www.health.gov.au/topics/immunisation/vaccines/pneumococcal-immunisation-service>
- The NSW Immunisation Schedule is being updated to reflect these changes.

New childhood pneumococcal recommendations for Prevenar 20

Cohort	Age	Number of doses	Schedule
Non–Aboriginal children (without medical risk factors)	2-12 months	3	6 weeks 4 months 12 months
Aboriginal children*	2-12 months	4	6 weeks 4 months 6 months 12 months
Children with medical risk factors listed in the AIH	2-12 months	4	6 weeks 4 months 6 months 12 months
Children and adolescents newly diagnosed with any risk conditions listed in the Australian Immunisation Handbook	≥ 12 months < 18 years	1	At diagnosis (≥ 2 months after any previous dose of a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)

*Aboriginal children who have previously received a 4-dose-schedule of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine as part of their routine schedule do not require an additional dose of Prevenar 20.

Prevenar 20 ordering and Prevenar 13 stock management

- Prevenar 20 will be available to order from the State Vaccine Centre online portal <https://nsw.tollhealthcare.com/> for vaccine account holders from midday Monday 18 August 2025.
- Prevenar 20 must not be administered to individuals until **1 September 2025**.
- Stocks of existing Prevenar 13 should be retained and used for adult pneumococcal vaccination from 1 September 2025, in line with [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) guidance.

Further Information:

- Contact your local public health unit on **1300 066 055**
- Australian Immunisation Handbook: Pneumococcal Disease
<https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/contents/vaccine-preventable-diseases/pneumococcal-disease>