

The aim of an immunisation program is to reduce the impact of vaccine preventable disease through achieving high vaccine coverage rates in the community. The vaccines offered through these immunisation programs are free, however, in some cases a service delivery fee may be applied by the immunisation provider.

Vaccines through the immunisation programs listed below are available through your immunisation provider.

## National Immunisation Program

The National Immunisation Program is supported by the Australian Government and provides free vaccines for children, adolescents and adults who are eligible for Medicare benefits. All individuals aged 10 to 19 years are eligible for funded vaccines under the expansion of the Program.

The National Immunisation Program consists of the following:

- **Childhood Immunisation Program**

The [Childhood Immunisation Program](#) provides free vaccines against many different diseases for children aged up to four years of age. Additional vaccines are also recommended for Aboriginal children.

- **School Immunisation Program**

The School Immunisation Program provides recommended vaccines for South Australian Year 8 students.

## Meningococcal B Immunisation Program

A state-wide Meningococcal B Immunisation Program for babies and children started on 1 October 2018. The childhood program is offered to those aged six weeks to 12 months of age and commences 1 October 2018. A childhood catch-up program will be available for those from 12 months to less than four years of age. The childhood catch-up program will end 31 December 2019.

In early 2019, the immunisation program will be expanded to be included in the School Immunisation Program in Year 10, with a catch-up program for students in Year 11, as well as young people aged from 17 to less than 21 years of age (until the end of 2019).

The program will be delivered through existing service providers including GPs, Council immunisation clinics, Aboriginal Health Services, Child and Family Health Services (CaFHS), Country Health SA Local Health Network (CHSALHN), Women's and Children's Health Network (WCHN) and other existing programs, including the School Immunisation Program.

For information on the Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study, visit [B Part of it](#).

## Annual Influenza Program

The Annual Influenza Program provides free vaccines to specific groups who are considered at greatest risk from complications of the flu.

## High Risk Hepatitis B Immunisation Program

The High Risk Hepatitis B Immunisation Program provides free hepatitis B vaccines to groups who are at an increased risk of developing hepatitis B infection.

## New Arrival Refugee Immunisation (NARI) Program

The New Arrival Refugee Immunisation (NARI) Program offers specific vaccines to newly-arrived refugees as part of the Australian Government Humanitarian Scheme. All refugees and humanitarian entrants aged over 20 years of age are eligible for funded vaccines under the expansion of the National Immunisation Program.

## Whooping Cough Vaccine in Pregnancy Program

As part of the [Whooping Cough Vaccine in Pregnancy Program](#), pregnant women in their third trimester can receive free whooping cough combination vaccine to protect their newborn baby from pertussis in the first few months of life.

## Catch-up schedules

Catch-up schedules are required for individuals who have missed or delayed vaccines and may be necessary for child care and school enrolment, and are currently used to determine eligibility for some family assistance payments. A catch-up schedule is planned by health professionals based on age, vaccination history, current recommendations and risk factors. For further information speak to your immunisation provider.

## Further information

For further information on immunisation programs, contact your doctor or immunisation provider.

### CONTACT

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