

National Immunisation Program vaccines in Pharmacies

Expansion to include school vaccination program vaccines



Guidance for Authorised Pharmacist Immunisers – HPV, dTpa and MenACWY catch-up vaccination

From 6 May 2022, appropriately trained pharmacist immunisers can supply and administer National Immunisation Program (NIP) vaccines to eligible cohorts who would be routinely offered vaccination in the NSW School Vaccination Program. These vaccines include:

- human papillomavirus (HPV)
- diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa)
- meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY)

These vaccines must only be administered after checking the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) for previous vaccination history to avoid duplication.

Pharmacist immunisers may also administer private market HPV, dTpa and MenACWY vaccines to people aged 20 and over who are not eligible for NIP vaccine.

Eligibility requirements for access to NIP vaccines

- Pharmacist Immunisers can only administer these vaccines to:
 - adolescents aged 12-19 (NIP)
 - people aged 20 and over (HPV, dTpa and MenACWY vaccines - private market stock only).

Training requirements for pharmacist immunisers

- Pharmacist immunisers must ensure that they have completed training for all authorised vaccines that they intend to administer. The pharmacist immunisers must have successfully completed an accredited pharmacist immuniser course including training on HPV, dTpa and MenACWY vaccines if these NIP funded vaccines are to be administered.

Applying for a Vaccine Account Number (VAN) from the State Vaccine Centre

- To order NIP vaccines, pharmacies must first have a Vaccine Account Number (VAN) from the State Vaccine Centre.
- Pharmacist immunisers are eligible to apply for a State Vaccine Centre account if they meet all the requirements in the [NSW Pharmacist Vaccination Standards](#) and the online [Declaration form](#).
- To register for a VAN, visit <https://nsw.tollhealthcare.com/newPharmacy/> and follow the prompts, noting that you will need to provide your Pharmacy's Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) provider number, principal accredited pharmacist immuniser's AHPRA number/expiry date and confirm that all pharmacist immunisers have access to AIR to review and update vaccination records.
- Pharmacists that do not already have a pharmacy AIR provider number must apply for this first at: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/application-air-provider.aspx>
- Pharmacists that do not already have organisation/individual PRODA access, must also apply for this prior to applying for a VAN: servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/business/services/proda-provider-digital-access
- If you previously applied for a VAN and you have not received advice from the State Vaccine Centre, please call 1300 656 132.

Ordering vaccines

- Once a VAN has been obtained, orders for NIP vaccines can be placed through the NSW Vaccine Centre: <https://nsw.tollhealthcare.com>. Allocation and ordering limits will apply.
- You can use the same VAN to order your NIP funded influenza vaccines and the NIP funded HPV, dTpa and MenACWY vaccines.
- Vaccine providers will be able to place one order per month for NIP funded HPV, dTpa and MenACWY and two orders per month for NIP funded influenza vaccine supply.
- Detailed instructions on how to order vaccines are available at: health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Documents/ordering-vaccines.pdf

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Health

Charging for NIP vaccines

- Authorised Pharmacist Immunisers must not charge for NIP vaccines but may charge an administration/assessment fee. The fee must be explained to the patient or parent/guardian prior to vaccination.

More information

- NSW Health advice about pharmacist initiation and administration of vaccines: health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/pharmacist-vaccination-expansion.aspx
- NSW Pharmacist Vaccination Standards: health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Documents/pharmacist-new-standard.pdf
- Cold chain requirements: health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/cold-chain-management.aspx
- NSW Vaccine Centre: <https://nsw.tollhealthcare.com>
- NSW School Vaccination Program: health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination
- Australian Government's free catch-up vaccination for individuals aged 10-19 years: health.gov.au/resources/publications/free-catch-up-vaccines-for-10-to-19-year-olds-fact-sheet
- Australian Immunisation Handbook: <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/>

Regards

NSW Health

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