



# Vaccine Update #472 – Schedule update, Measles advice, dTpa for tetanus prone wounds

## WA Immunisation Schedule and WA Aboriginal Immunisation Schedule updated

The [WA immunisation schedules](#) have been updated with the following:

- Childhood pneumococcal vaccination decision aid simplified
- Upper age limit removed for Abrysvo vaccination
- Flucelvax Quad added to over 65 year olds and under 5 year olds

## Measles advice from Chief Medical Officer

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (the department) has shared [measles vaccination advice](#) from the Australian Government Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Professor Michael Kidd.

For clinical advice, health professionals can refer to the [measles chapter](#) of the Australian Immunisation Handbook .

Further information about measles vaccination, and free vaccines available to eligible people under the WA Program, is available at [Measles immunisation program](#).

# Providers encouraged to offer dTpa vaccine rather than dT vaccine for tetanus prone wounds for increasing pertussis protection

The [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) (AIH) recommends adolescents and adults with tetanus-prone wounds receive a booster dose of either dT (diphtheria, tetanus) or dTpa (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) vaccine.

Given the increased cases of pertussis and waning immunity, providers are **encouraged to administer a dTpa vaccine rather than dT vaccine** to all patients with a tetanus-prone wound, to provide additional protection against pertussis. This is especially important if they have not previously received a dose of dTpa vaccine in the past 5 years.

Pregnant women are recommended to receive this booster vaccine dose as **dTpa** to also protect against [pertussis](#).

It is more important than ever that you check your patient's [Australian Immunisation Register \(AIR\)](#) record to see if the person is eligible for a pertussis-containing vaccine.

Remember to submit all vaccination encounters to the AIR so your patients have a complete immunisation record. Visit [Services Australia](#) for instructions on how to do this.

**Please note:** dTpa vaccine is recommended and funded for the below cohorts. All other cohorts will need to purchase the vaccine privately. Consult the [WA Immunisation Schedules](#) for more information.

- Children aged:
  - 6-8 weeks
  - 4 months
  - 6 months
  - 18 months
  - 4 years
- Adolescents in Year 7 (catch-up free until age 20)
- Pregnant people
- Adult refugees and humanitarian entrants

**This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.**

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