



Structured Administration and Supply Arrangement (SASA)

TITLE: Administration of Vaccines by Pharmacists

1. **Authority:**

Issued by the Chief Executive Officer of Health under Part 6 of the Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016.

2. **Scope:**

This authorises pharmacists trained in immunisation to administer vaccines at a suitably equipped and staffed place or premises in Western Australia.

3. **Criteria:**

This SASA authorises the actions specified in the table below.

Practitioner:	Registered pharmacists ¹ who have completed approved training in accordance with Appendix 1
Practice setting:	At a place or premises in Western Australia that complies with Appendix 2
Approved activity:	Administration
Approved medicines:	Vaccines listed in Appendix 3
Medical conditions:	Immunisation of persons aged 5 years and over with vaccines listed in Appendix 3

4. **Conditions:**

The administration of approved medicines under this SASA is subject to the conditions that:

- a. vaccine administration includes catch up of vaccines available to individuals aged 5 and above only. It does not include catch up of vaccines the individual was eligible for prior to turning 5 years of age;
- b. the pharmacist must have successfully completed an approved course of training meeting the requirements of Appendix 1;

¹ Includes pharmacists with the registration type of 'provisional' on the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency Register of Practitioners, who are undertaking their approved supervised practice at a pharmacy meeting the 'practice setting' requirements of this Structured Administration and Supply Arrangement.

- c. the pharmacist with the registration type of 'provisional' must be supervised by a pharmacist, who is also eligible to administer vaccines in accordance with this SASA;
- d. sites where immunisation is being conducted must be appropriately equipped to treat patients in the event of an anaphylactic reaction;
- e. patient selection, vaccine administration and follow up care should be in accordance with Vaccination Procedures contained in the latest version of the Australian Immunisation Handbook;
- f. written or documented verbal consent must be obtained from the person, parent or guardian, before each instance of vaccination;
- g. all vaccines administered must be recorded on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR);
- h. all adverse events occurring following immunisation must be notified to the Western Australian Vaccine Safety Surveillance (WAVSS) system;
- i. vaccines are procured by a pharmacy registered in WA, as part of pharmacy business carried on at that pharmacy, in accordance with Section 9 of the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2014*;
- j. supply and possession of vaccines is conducted by a pharmacy business under the overall authority of the responsible pharmacist in accordance with Section 9 of the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2014*;
- k. procurement, storage and administration is in accordance with Part 9 of the Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016;
- l. record keeping is in accordance with Part 12 of the Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016; and
- m. storage and transport of the vaccines is in accordance with the *National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5*.

5. References:

- a. *Australian immunisation handbook*. Available at: <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/>
- b. *National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive For 5*. Available at: <https://beta.health.gov.au/resources/publications/national-vaccine-storage-guidelines-strive-for-5>
- c. *Western Australian Vaccine Safety Surveillance*. Western Australian Department of Health. Available at: http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/U_Z/Western-Australian-Vaccine-Safety-Surveillance-WAVSS
- d. Australian Immunisation Register. Available at: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/australian-immunisation-register>

6. **Issued by:**

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Position:	Chief Health Officer
Date:	19 August 2024

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APPENDIX 1

Approved Training

All Registered Pharmacists administering a vaccine in accordance with this SASA must have successfully completed an immunisation course provided by:

- a. Health Education Services Australia, or
- b. a Registered Training Organisation, or
- c. a university, or
- d. a course approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health, or
- e. a course recognised by an equivalent Department of Health in an Australian State or Territory.

Approved courses must require participants to demonstrate satisfactory knowledge, understanding and minimum competencies in the following areas:

- a. Storage, transport and handling of vaccines (cold chain);
- b. Obtaining informed consent for vaccination;
- c. Indications and contraindications for vaccination;
- d. Administration of vaccines as per National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Immunisation Guidelines;
- e. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR);
- f. Diagnosis and management of anaphylaxis and
- g. Documentation of vaccination and critical incidents.

Competency must be maintained through yearly updates. The competency acquired must relate to the vaccines being administered, as detailed in Appendix 3. Additional competencies may be gained through self-directed learning, including referencing the Australian Immunisation Handbook. The Department of Health will determine and advise pharmacists if additional formal training is required for individual vaccines.



APPENDIX 2

Approved Setting

Registered pharmacists may only administer vaccines in accordance with this SASA at a place or premises, including a community pharmacy registered in WA, that:

1. Has immediate access to the minimum equipment to safely perform immunisation procedures, in accordance with the latest version of the *Australian Immunisation Handbook* and, has:
 - a. A space where immunisation can be safely performed, that:
 - i. ensures patient privacy and confidentiality;
 - ii. permits the patient to lie flat in the event of a severe adverse event or anaphylactic reaction;
 - iii. offers unhindered access for emergency staff to attend and perform resuscitation procedures;
 - b. An area suitable for direct visual observation of seated patients, for 15 minutes post vaccination;
 - c. Hand washing facilities;
 - d. Equipment for disposal of sharps and clinical waste;
 - e. An in-date, complete anaphylaxis response kit;
 - f. Access to current editions of the *Australian Immunisation Handbook* and *National Vaccine Storage Guidelines: Strive for 5*; and
 - g. Up-to-date, written procedures covering provision of immunisation services.
2. Has sufficient staffing, during periods of vaccine administration to ensure patient safety in post-vaccination monitoring and adverse event management:

Where a pharmacist is not dedicated to conducting immunisation activities only, there must be additional staff present, who hold current competency in first aid and CPR, and who can immediately assist with management of any emergency situation.

APPENDIX 3

Approved Medicines

Registered Pharmacists may only administer vaccines in accordance with this SASA as listed in the table below:

Vaccine	Approved Condition
Diphtheria	According to the most current published version of the <i>Australian Immunisation Handbook</i>
Hepatitis B	
Herpes zoster	
Human Papilloma Virus	
Influenza	
Measles	
Meningococcal	
Mumps	
Pertussis	
Pneumococcal	
Polio	
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	
Rubella	
Tetanus	
Varicella	