

YOUNG PEOPLE'S HEALTH SERVICE



Catch-up immunisations for young people

Immunisations are a safe way to protect your body against diseases.

Serious adverse events are very rare.

Disease to be protected against	Common side effects	Given today	Next due
Diphtheria Bacteria spread by respiratory droplets, it can cause severe breathing difficulties; up to 1 in 7 patients die.	About 1 in 10 have swelling, redness and/or pain at the injection site.		In 10 years (may be offered <10 years in pregnancy)
Tetanus Caused by bacterial toxins in soil, spread via nails, glass etc.; can cause painful muscle spasms & contractions; about 2 in 100 patients die.			
Pertussis "Whooping cough" Bacteria spread by respiratory droplets; causes long-lasting cough that can lead to pneumonia or brain damage.			
Hepatitis B Virus that is spread by blood or sexual fluids; can cause chronic liver inflammation and cancer	About 1 in 20 have local swelling, redness or pain at injection site.		2 nd dose: 3 rd dose:
Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Virus usually spread by sexual contact; strains can cause genital warts and/or increase risk of cancers (cervical, anal, oral).	About 8 in 10 will have pain. About 2 in 10 will have local swelling & redness. About 3 in 10 will have headaches, fever, or muscle aches.		Further doses not required
Meningococcal ACWY Bacteria that spreads through respiratory droplets (e.g. kissing, sharing cigarettes & bongs); can cause blood stream and brain infections that usually lead to death or permanent damage.	About 1 in 10 has local swelling, redness or pain; fever or headache. About 1 in 2 have a local reaction.		Further doses not required
Influenza (Flu vaccine) Virus spread by respiratory droplets; can cause fever, pneumonia.	About 1 in 10 has local swelling, redness or pain at the injection site.		Yearly

Disease to be protected against	Common side effects	Given today	Next due
Measles Virus that spreads in the air; can cause pneumonia and brain swelling.	About 1 in 10 has local swelling, redness or pain at the injection site		2 nd dose (due in 1 month):
Mumps Virus spread by respiratory droplets; can cause swollen neck glands, brain swelling, inflammation of the testes, deafness.	About 1 in 20 develops a rash.		
Rubella Virus spread by respiratory droplets; can cause rashes and fever, reduction in platelets; causes severe abnormalities in babies of pregnant women.	About 1 in 20 has swollen glands, stiff neck, joint pains and rash.		
Varicella (Chicken pox) Virus that spreads in the air; can cause an itchy rash and serious complications including brain swelling.	About 1 in 5 has a local reaction or fever. About 3-5 in 100 may develop a mild rash.		2 nd dose (due in 1 month):
Polio Virus that spreads in some places overseas by faecal to oral route and saliva, can cause fever, headache and vomiting and may lead to paralysis.	Local redness, pain and swelling at the injection site are common. Up to 1 in 10 has fever.		2 nd dose (due in 1 month): 3 rd dose (due 1 month after 2 nd dose):
Ask the nurse about these other vaccines:			
Mpox Disease spread by close skin contact. Can cause painful lesions especially on genitals.	Most common effects are local swelling, redness or pain at the injection site. Muscle pain, headache, fever		2 nd dose (due in 1 month):
Pneumococcal A group of bacteria spread by respiratory droplets; can lead to pneumonia, meningitis, blood stream infections.	About 1 in 5 has local swelling, redness or pain at the injection site, or fever.		Not required
Hepatitis A A virus spread by ingestion of faecally contaminated water/food or contact with faeces of a person with Hep A; can cause jaundice (yellow skin and eyes), fever, loss of appetite, liver pain, tiredness.	About 1 in 5 has local swelling, redness or pain at the injection site.		2 nd dose (due in 6 months):

If you have any questions or concerns or if you would like to chat to a nurse, you can call the following:

Young People's Health Service (Mon-Fri 10-4.30pm): P: (03) 9453 8590 or E: young.people@rch.org.au

Nurse-on-call (24/7 health advice): P: 1300 60 60 24

If you believe you have had a serious immunisation reaction:

If it is an emergency: Call 000