Do you need immunisation?

**Birth**
- Hepatitis B

**2 months (from 6 weeks)**
- Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough-hepatitis B-polio-Hib
- Pneumococcal
- Rotavirus

**6 months**
- Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough-hepatitis B-polio-Hib

**4 months**
- Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough-hepatitis B-polio-Hib
- Pneumococcal
- Rotavirus

**12 months**
- Measles-mumps-rubella
- Meningococcal A,C,W,Y
- Pneumococcal

**18 months**
- Measles-mumps-rubella-chickenpox
- Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough
- Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)

**6 months to under 5 years**
- Influenza (annually)

**4 years**
- Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough-poliio

**PARENTS!**
Make sure your child’s immunisations are up to date before they start childcare, kindergarten or primary school

**Early Adolescence**
- Human papillomavirus
- Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough
- Meningococcal A-C-W-Y

**During pregnancy**
- Influenza (any time when pregnant)
- Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough (from 28 weeks pregnant)

**From 65 years**
- Influenza (annually)
- Pneumococcal

**6 months to under 5 years**
- Influenza (annually)

**From 70-79 years**
- Shingles

**From 15 years**
- Influenza (annually)

**From 50 years**
- Influenza (annually)
- Pneumococcal

**All ages**
- Hepatitis B

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people**
- Additional vaccines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

**What vaccines you need depends on your Health, Age, Lifestyle and Occupation**

**Health**
Health issues such as premature birth, asthma, diabetes, heart, lung, spleen or kidney conditions, will mean you can benefit from immunisation.

**Age**
At different ages you need protection from different diseases.

**Lifestyle**
Lifestyle choices like travelling overseas, sexual activity or smoking, will mean you can benefit from immunisation.

**Occupation**
Some jobs expose you to a greater risk of contact with diseases, for example, working in a hospital or daycare centre. This means you can benefit from immunisation.

To find out more talk to your doctor or immunisation provider or visit www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/immunisation
Why immunise?
Immunisation is a proven and safe way to be protected against diseases that cause serious illness and sometimes death.

Every day immunisation saves lives and makes it possible for Victorians to live free from the illness and the disability caused by many vaccine-preventable diseases. By reducing the spread of disease, immunisation not only protects those people who have been immunised, but also protects those in the community who may be unable to receive vaccines themselves.

Vaccine costs
The vaccines listed on the poster are provided free by the government to all children and adolescents up to 20 years of age, if they are age eligible for the vaccine, regardless of Medicare status. Adult vaccines are free to Medicare card holders, Australian citizens, refugees and asylum seekers and those with a permanent visa or have applied for such. You may still have to pay a consultation fee to your doctor or immunisation provider to give you the vaccine.

Vaccine side effects
Common side effects may occur soon after vaccination and last one to two days. Generally no treatment is required. If you have a fever, drink more water and do not overdress. Paracetamol can be taken for pain or fever (follow the label for correct use). Severe side effects, such as an allergic reaction, are very rare and usually happen soon after vaccination. To be safe, your doctor or immunisation provider will ask you to stay nearby for a minimum of 15 minutes after you are vaccinated.

Where do I get immunised?
Your doctor or your local council can provide immunisation services. You can use the ‘find a health service’ search on the Better Health Channel website - simply select ‘immunisation provider’ from the drop-down list of service types and enter your postcode to view a list of immunisation providers near you.

More information
To receive this document in an accessible format email immunisation@dhhs.vic.gov.au

Check your immunisation HALO

Not sure if you or someone you care for needs an immunisation?

What immunisations you need depends on your Health, Age, Lifestyle, Occupation (HALO). You can use this brochure as a guide to talk to your doctor or immunisation provider.

Everyone’s HALO is different

Lifestyle

- I plan to travel overseas soon
- I smoke tobacco
- I have, or will soon have, close contact with a newborn baby
- I have, or plan to have, a tattoo or body piercing
- I am a man who has sex with men
- I inject drugs

Occupation

- I work with children
- I am a healthcare worker
- I work in an emergency service or essential community service
- I work in a residential care facility
- I care for, or live with, someone with reduced or impaired immunity
- I work in an abattoir or with farm animals or breed cats and dogs
- I am a plumber or sewerage worker
- I am a sex industry worker
- I may handle Australian bats
- I am exposed to blood and body fluids or human tissue at work

The following vaccines may be recommended by your doctor or immunisation provider:

- Influenza (flu)
- Pneumococcal
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Diphtheria-tetanus
- Whooping cough
- Measles-mumps-rubella
- Chickenpox
- Meningococcal
- Human papillomavirus
- Rabies
- Q Fever
- Shingles
- Haemophilus influenzae type b
- Review the information over the page as a guide. Children and some adults are eligible for free recommended immunisations as per the Immunisation schedule Victoria. A detailed travel consultation should be undertaken to discuss all health risks.