

# Immunisation

## Vaccines available for purchase through Council

**Did you know that there are diseases your child can be vaccinated against, that are not funded through the National Immunisation program?**

### Meningococcal

Meningococcal disease is a rare but potentially life-threatening disease that can progress rapidly. Up to 1 in 10 may die and up to 1 in 5 may have permanent disability. Meningococcal can affect anyone of any age, however, it is more common in children less than 5 years and those aged 15-19 years.

- Meningococcal ACWY vaccine is administered to children as part of the National Immunisation Program at 1 year of age, however parents can choose to protect their child from 6 weeks of age. If your child turned 1 prior to 30 June 2018, they would have received protection against Meningococcal C, not ACWY. Parents may also choose to extend this protection by purchasing the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine. Meningococcal vaccination can be provided through Hume City Council for \$73 per dose.
- Meningococcal B vaccine is funded for indigenous children and those with specific medical conditions through the National Immunisation Program. For those ineligible to receive the funded vaccine, it is available to purchase from 6 weeks of age. It is recommended that children younger than 2 years of age receive a dose of paracetamol 30 mins prior to immunisation or as soon as practical, followed by a second dose, regardless of the presence of fever, 6 hours after immunisation. This is due to an increased risk of high fever following immunisation with the Meningococcal B vaccine. Meningococcal B vaccination can be provided by Hume City Council for \$133 per dose.

The number of doses of Meningococcal vaccine required, is dependent on the age of the child at their first dose. Your immunisation provider will be able to discuss this further with you.

### Influenza

Influenza is a highly infectious virus that can lead to severe illness and even death. It can affect people of all ages but is especially serious in babies and those aged over 65 years. The influenza vaccine is funded through the National Immunisation Program for children from 6 months to 4 years, those over 65 years, pregnant women, those with pre-existing medical conditions and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. If you are not eligible for a free vaccine, it can be provided by Hume City Council for \$16.

### Varicella (Chicken Pox)

Varicella (Chicken Pox) is a highly infectious viral disease. Usually, it is mild in nature and short lasting however, it can have serious health consequences for some, causing permanent damage and even death. After having chicken pox, the virus stays in the body and can reactivate later in life to cause shingles, which can have long lasting and serious consequences. Children receive a Varicella vaccine as part of the National Immunisation Program at 18 months of age, however a second dose is recommended but not funded.

A second dose gives better protection and reduces the chance of break through disease and can be given a minimum of 4 weeks after the first. Varicella vaccination can be provided through Hume City Council for \$66.



For more information scan QR code or visit  
[hume.vic.gov.au/immunisation](https://hume.vic.gov.au/immunisation)

## Herpes Zoster (Shingles)

Herpes Zoster (Shingles) is a viral infection caused by the reactivation of the varicella (chicken pox) virus. Anyone who has had chicken pox can develop shingles which can lead to long lasting and serious consequences such as post herpetic neuralgia, pneumonia, hearing problems, blindness and swelling of the brain. One in three people will develop shingles in their lifetime, usually affecting older people. The risk of complications increases with age. It is funded for those aged over 65, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged over 50 and those 18 years and over with a weakened immune system. Shingles vaccine is recommended for anyone of 50 years. If you are not eligible for a free vaccine, it can be provided by Hume City Council for \$305 per dose (Two doses are recommended).

## Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping cough

Diphtheria disease is a rare but serious disease in which the upper airways are infected by a bacteria that can cause swelling and blocking of the airway. This can lead to suffocation and death. Diphtheria disease can affect people of any age, with those individuals that are unimmunised at highest risk.

Tetanus is a life-threatening bacterial infection that is spread when spores of tetanus causing bacteria enter the body through a cut or sore and grow producing a strong toxin. This bacteria is found in our everyday life such as in soil, dust, and animal waste. It is life-threatening causing severe muscle spasms and sometimes death. Tetanus is prevented through immunisation, however immunity fades over time so booster doses every 10 years are required to stay protected.

Whooping cough (Pertussis) is a serious disease of the airways that can cause Pneumonia, brain damage and sometimes death. It can affect people of any age but is especially serious for babies. Vaccination not only protects yourself but can help protect those around you that are too young to be immunised. Immunisation is the best way to prevent whooping cough however immunity can fade over time, so booster doses of whooping cough vaccination are recommended every 10 years. Whooping cough immunisation is recommended for children, pregnant women, expectant partners, adult household contacts and carers of babies under 6 months old, healthcare workers, early childhood educators and carers and people travelling overseas.

Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping cough vaccination is administered free to children as part of the National Immunisation Program at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 18 months, 4 years and as a booster dose in Year 7, and to pregnant women from 20 weeks. For those ineligible for the Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping cough vaccination can be provided through Hume City Council for \$38.

## Other vaccines available to purchase:

Hepatitis B	\$28 per dose
Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)	\$243 per dose



For more information scan QR code or visit  
[hume.vic.gov.au/immunisation](https://hume.vic.gov.au/immunisation)

