

Significant events in **measles, mumps and rubella** vaccination practice in Australia

Year	Month	Intervention
1968		Live, attenuated measles vaccine registered (inactivated vaccine never available in Australia)
1969	May	Measles vaccination recommended for children aged 12–23 months Rubella vaccine registered and recommended
1970		Funded measles vaccination commenced in all states and territories, except NSW for children aged 12–23 months
1971		Rubella vaccination funded for females aged 12–14 years (school-based program) and for vaccination of susceptible women prior to pregnancy
1972		Funded measles vaccination commenced in NSW for children aged 12–23 months
1975		First national vaccination schedule included measles vaccination for infants at 12 months of age
1980		Mumps vaccine registered for use in infants aged 12–15 months
1981		Mumps vaccine recommended for use in children after 12 months of age
1982		Combined measles-mumps (MM) vaccine recommended at 12 months of age, in preference to monovalent vaccines
1983		Combined MM vaccine funded on the national schedule at 12 months of age
1984		<i>NT only:</i> MM vaccination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants scheduled at 9 months of age instead of 12 months
1989		Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine recommended and funded on the national schedule at 12 months of age (9 months of age for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants in the NT), replacing MM vaccine
1992	November	2nd dose of MMR vaccine recommended and funded for both males and females
1993		Rubella vaccination ceased for females aged 12–14 years (school-based program)
1993–1994		School-based MMR vaccination program for males and females aged 10–14 years. Most jurisdictions offered this for students in their final year of primary school/first year of secondary school
1998	July July–December	<i>NT only:</i> Recommended age for 1st dose of MMR vaccine for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants increased to 12 months of age 2nd MMR dose scheduled at 4–5 years of age instead of 10–14 years Funding of a national Measles Control Campaign involving one-off, school-based catch-up MMR vaccination for children aged 5–12 years
2000	March	2nd MMR dose scheduled at 4 years of age instead of 4–5 years 2nd MMR dose recommended for children aged >5 years who have only received 1 dose of MMR vaccine Adults born during or after 1970 recommended to have received 2 doses of MMR vaccine Introduction of NSW-funded MMR catch-up vaccine program for adults. Vaccine available for adults born during or after 1970 who have not received two doses of MMR vaccine Introduction of ACT-funded MMR catch-up vaccine program for adults. Vaccine available for adults born during or after 1966 who have not received two doses of MMR vaccine

Year	Month	Intervention
2001		Funded young adult (18–30 years) MMR vaccination campaign conducted
2003	September	Adults born during or after 1966 recommended to have received 2 doses of MMR vaccine NSW-funded MMR catch-up vaccine program for adults expanded for adults born during or after 1966 who have not received two doses of MMR vaccine ACT-funded MMR catch-up vaccine program for adults expanded for adults born during or after 1966 who have not received two doses of MMR vaccine
2005	October	First measles-mumps-rubella-varicella (MMRV) vaccine registered for use in children aged >9 months and adults
2006	March	Second MMRV vaccine registered for use in children aged 12 months to 12 years
2008	April June	2nd MMR dose scheduled at 18 months of age instead of 4 years, but not implemented Introduction of Qld-funded MMR catch-up vaccine program for adults. Vaccine available for adults born during or after 1966 who have not received two doses of MMR vaccine
2013	July	MMRV recommended and funded for 2nd MMR dose scheduled at 18 months of age Introduction of NT-funded MMR catch-up vaccine program for adults born during or after 1966 who have not received two doses of MMR vaccine
2018	October	MMR vaccine catch-up funded by Vic for adults born during or since 1966 and aged ≥20 years without evidence of valid MMR vaccine or serological immunity
2019	March April September	Introduction of WA-funded MMR catch-up vaccine program for adults. Vaccine available for adults born during or after 1966 and aged ≥20 years who have not received two doses of MMR vaccine Recommended age at which infants can receive MMR vaccine for travel to highly endemic areas, during outbreaks and as post-exposure prophylaxis lowered to 6 months Introduction of Tas-funded MMR catch-up vaccine program for adults. Vaccine available for adults born during or after 1966 who have not received two doses of MMR vaccine
2025	April	Several jurisdictions expand their measles-containing vaccine program (in addition to National Immunisation Program-funded measles vaccination): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA funds free MMR for infants aged 6–<12 months travelling overseas to countries where measles is endemic or circulating to ensure protection for this vulnerable cohort • Qld funds an additional early dose of MMR for infants travelling overseas or within Australia to areas where measles is endemic or outbreaks are occurring This funded dose does not replace the routine measles vaccinations recommended at age 12- and 18-months