

Vaccination from community pharmacy – at a glance

Q: Which vaccines may I be able to receive from a community pharmacy, and do I have to pay for them?

A: The answer to this question varies across the country and is controlled by the legislation of each state and territory. It also depends on your age, whether you are pregnant and your eligibility for vaccines funded under the National Immunisation Program (NIP). A vaccine may be free if it is funded under the NIP or by a state or territory, but pharmacies and medical services may charge a service or consultation fee.

The following summary tables are a guide to what is permissible under state and territory legislation.*

State/territory	Vaccines that can be administered by a pharmacist immuniser	Age permissible under state and territory legislation [^]	Is the vaccine free if I get it from a community pharmacy?†	Would the same vaccine be free if I were to get it from a GP, a local medical centre or an Aboriginal medical service?#	
	COVID-19		Yes, COVID-19 vaccines are Commonwealth funded separate to the NIP		
	Diphtheria	5 years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib)		No	Yes , if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Hepatitis A		No		
	Hepatitis B		Yes, if you meet any condition for a territory-funded [PDF] dose	Yes , if you meet any condition for a <u>territory-funded [PDF]</u> or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
<u>Australian</u> Capital	Human papillomavirus (HPV)	10 years and over			
<u>Territory</u>	Herpes zoster (shingles)	18 years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Influenza				
	Japanese encephalitis		No	Yes, if you meet any condition for a territory-funded dose	
	Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	5 years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for a territory-funded dose	Yes , if you meet any condition for a <u>territory-</u> or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Meningococcal ACWY		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Meningococcal B		No	Yes , if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Mpox (previously monkeypox)/smallpox/vaccinia virus (JYNNEOS brand only; subcutaneous injection only; primary preventative vaccination only)	Non-pregnant people aged 16 years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for a territory-funded [PDF] dose		
	Pertussis	5 years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP	funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	



State/territory	Vaccines that can be administered by a pharmacist immuniser	Age permissible under state and territory legislation [^]	Is the vaccine free if I get it from a community pharmacy?†	Would the same vaccine be free if I were to get it from a GP, a local medical centre or an Aboriginal medical service?#	
	Pneumococcal (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine [PCV] only)	70 years and over for non-Indigenous people 50 years and over for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Poliomyelitis	5 years and over	No	Yes , if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
<u>Australian</u> Capital	Rabies (pre-exposure prophylaxis treatment only for people who are not immunocompromised, and only by intramuscular injection)	5 years and over	No		
Territory	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Arexvy and Abrysvo brands only)	60 years and over	No		
(cont.)	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Pregnant women can receive Abrysvo only)	Pregnant women of all ages (including those aged less than 18 years) from 28 weeks gestation			
	Tetanus	5 years and over	Yes, if you meet certain conditions for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Typhoid (intramuscular injection formulation only)		No		
	Varicella (chickenpox)		No	Yes , if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	



State/territory	Vaccines that can be administered by a pharmacist immuniser	Age permissible under state and territory legislation [^]	Is the vaccine free if I get it from a community pharmacy?†	Would the same vaccine be free if I were to get it from a GP, a local medical centre or an Aboriginal medical service?#	
	COVID-19		Yes, COVID-19 vaccines are Commonwealth funded separate to the NIP		
	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa) acellular combination		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	Yes, if you meet any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP	
	Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib)	5 years and over	1411 -Idilided dose – Telef to 1411 eligibility	eligibility'	
	Hepatitis A		Yes, for post-exposure management (state	Yes, for post-exposure management (state-funded)	
	Hepatitis B		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Human papillomavirus (HPV)	9 years and over			
	Herpes zoster (shingles); Shingrix brand only	18 years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-	funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Influenza	2 years and over			
	Japanese encephalitis		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state-f	f <u>unded</u> dose	
	Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR)		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Meningococcal ACWY	5 years and over	Yes , if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	Yes , if you meet any condition for a <u>state</u> or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Meningococcal B				
New South Wales	Mpox (previously monkeypox)/smallpox/vaccinia virus (JYNNEOS brand only; subcutaneous injection only; primary preventative vaccination only)	Non-pregnant eligible people 16 years and over; only in pharmacy settings that are authorised vaccination settings under the NSW Health State-wide Protocol for the Supply and Administration of JYNNEOS Vaccine	Yes, if you meet any condition for a state-funded dose		
	Pneumococcal (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine [PCV] only)	70 years and over for non-Indigenous people; 50 years and over for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Poliomyelitis		Yes , if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	Yes , if you meet any condition for a <u>state</u> - or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Rabies (pre-exposure prophylaxis treatment only for people who are not immunocompromised, and only by intramuscular injection)	5 years and over	No (please note rabies vaccine is ordered via Public Health Units and provided free as post-exposure treatment via GPs and hospitals)		
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Arexvy and Abrysvo brands only)	60 years and over	No		
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Pregnant women can receive Abrysvo only)	Pregnant women of all ages (including those aged less than 18 years) from 28 weeks gestation	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Typhoid (intramuscular injection formulation only)	_	No		
	Varicella (chickenpox)	5 years and over	Yes , if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	Yes , if you meet any condition for a <u>state</u> - or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	



State/territory	Vaccines that can be administered by a pharmacist immuniser	Age permissible under state and territory legislation [^]	Is the vaccine free if I get it from a community pharmacy?†	Would the same vaccine be free if I were to get it from a GP, a local medical centre or an Aboriginal medical service?#	
	COVID-19		Yes, COVID-19 vaccines are Commonwealth funded separate to the NIP		
	Diphtheria				
	Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Hepatitis A				
	Hepatitis B		Yes, if you meet any condition for a terri	itory-funded [PDF] or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Herpes zoster (shingles)	5 years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Human papillomavirus (HPV)				
	Influenza				
	Japanese encephalitis		No		
Northern Territory	Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR)		Yes, if you meet any condition for a <u>territory</u> - or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility' Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility' Yes, if you meet any condition for a <u>territory</u> - or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Meningococcal ACWY				
	Meningococcal B				
	Pneumococcal				
	Poliomyelitis		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Arexvy and Abrysvo brands only)				
	(Pregnant women can receive Abrysvo only)				
	Rotavirus				
	Tetanus		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Varicella (chickenpox)				



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	Cholera	2 years and over	No		
	COVID-19	Ages <u>recommended</u> in the Australian Immunisation Handbook	Yes, COVID-19 vaccines are Commonwealth funded separate to the NIP		
	Diphtheria				
	Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib)				
	Hepatitis A	2 years and ever	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-	funded doserefer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Hepatitis B	2 years and over	res, ii you meet any condition for an Nir-	nurided dose – relei to INIF eligibility	
	Herpes zoster (shingles)				
	Human papillomavirus (HPV)				
	Influenza	Ages <u>recommended</u> in the Australian Immunisation Handbook	Yes, if you meet any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Japanese encephalitis		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state-funded dose		
	Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR)		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
Queensland	Meningococcal ACWY		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-	funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
Queensianu	Meningococcal B		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state-	or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Mpox (previously monkeypox)/smallpox/vaccinia virus (JYNNEOS brand only)		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state-	funded dose	
	Pertussis				
	Pneumococcal		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Poliomyelitis	2 years and over			
	Rabies (pre-exposure prophylaxis treatment only)		No		
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Arexvy and Abrysvo brands only)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	(Pregnant women can receive Abrysvo only)				
	Tetanus				
	Typhoid		No		
	Varicella (chickenpox)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-	funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	



State/territory	Vaccines that can be administered by a pharmacist immuniser	Age permissible under state and territory legislation [^]	Is the vaccine free if I get it from a community pharmacy?	Would the same vaccine be free if I were to get it from a GP, a local medical centre or an Aboriginal medical service?#
South Australia	18(3a) of the Controlled Substances (Poiscon appropriate training may administer any value with the Australian Immunisation Handbook Pharmacist administration of certain vaccin	cists to work to a scope of practice model. Under regulation ons) Regulations 2011, a pharmacist who has received coine to individuals of any age, provided it is in accordance and their own personal scope of practice. The ines is also restricted by other (non-legislative) layers of policy coine can only be administered by an approved yellow fever	Yes, if you mee	et any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'



State/territory	Vaccines that can be administered by a pharmacist immuniser	Age permissible under state and territory legislation [^]	Is the vaccine free if I get it from a community pharmacy?†	Would the same vaccine be free if I were to get it from a GP, a local medical centre or an Aboriginal medical service?#
	COVID-19	5 years and over	Yes, COVID-19 vaccines are Commonwealth funded separate to the NIP	
	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-	-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'
	Hepatitis A	10 years and over	No	
	Hepatitis B	To years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for a state-	or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'
	Human papillomavirus (HPV)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Herpes zoster (shingles); Shingrix brand only	18 years and over		
	Influenza	5 years and over		
	Japanese encephalitis (prescription required)	10 years and over	No	
	Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR)		Yes. If you meet any condition for a state	or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'
<u>Tasmania</u>	Meningococcal ACWY		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-	-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'
	Meningococcal B		No	
	Pneumococcal		Yes, if you meet any condition for an	Yes , if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'
	Poliomyelitis		NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Arexvy and Abrysvo brands only)	18 years and over	Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-	-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'
	(Pregnant women can receive Abrysvo only)			
	Rabies (prescription required)	10 years and over	No	
	Typhoid (prescription required)			
	Varicella (chickenpox)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP	-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'



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	COVID-19		Yes, COVID-19 vaccines are Common	nwealth funded separate to the NIP	
	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa)				
	Human papillomavirus (HPV)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Herpes zoster (shingles)				
	Influenza	5 years and over			
	Japanese encephalitis		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state-funded dose		
Victoria	Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR)		Yes, if you meet any condition for a st	ate- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
<u>Victoria^^</u>	Meningococcal ACWY		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Mpox (previously monkeypox)/smallpox/vaccinia virus (JYNNEOS brand only)		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state-funded dose		
	Pneumococcal		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Arexvy and Abrysvo brands only)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	(Pregnant women can receive Abrysvo only)				



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	COVID-19		Yes, COVID-19 vaccines are Commonwealth funded separate to the NIP		
	Diphtheria		Yes, if you meet any condition for an N	IIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Hepatitis B		Yes, if you meet any condition for a sta	ate- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'	
	Herpes zoster (shingles)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Human papillomavirus (HPV)	5 years and over			
	Influenza		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR)		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
Western Australia	Meningococcal		Yes, if you meet any condition for a state- or NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	Pertussis				
	Pneumococcal				
	Poliomyelitis				
	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Arexvy and Abrysvo brands only)		Yes, if you meet any condition for an NIP-funded dose – refer to 'NIP eligibility'		
	(Pregnant women can receive Abrysvo only)				
	Tetanus				
	Varicella (chickenpox)				



Notes

- * This information sheet is a guide to what is permissible under state and territory legislation. Not all pharmacies will offer these services, and not all pharmacists are permitted to administer vaccines. Specified vaccines can only be administered by pharmacists who are registered to do so and who have completed specified training modules in accordance with jurisdictional standards. Some pharmacies may only offer a fee-based service and not NIP-funded vaccines. Additional requirements, such as a prescription from a medical or nurse practitioner, may be required for some vaccines in accordance with jurisdictional standards.
- ^ The ages listed in this column reflect what is permissible under state and territory legislation. They do not reflect clinically recommended ages to receive vaccination or the ages for which the relevant vaccine is registered. Refer to the Australian Immunisation Handbook for clinical guidance.
- † Pharmacies not participating in the <u>National Immunisation Program Vaccination in Pharmacy (NIPVIP) program</u> may charge an administration fee. The NIPVIP program only covers administration fees for those aged 5 years and over.
- # Vaccines may be free if they are funded on the NIP or by a state or territory; however, GPs and local medical centres may charge a consultation fee.
- ^^ Victoria is conducting a statewide pilot whereby participating pharmacists can administer additional vaccines including hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid and poliomyelitis.



NIP eligibility

The NIP provides free vaccines to people who meet specified conditions, as listed below:

- Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine: Free for people aged 4 years, people aged 12–13 years and pregnant women; free for catch-up of missed doses for all people aged <20 years; free for all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants
- Hepatitis A vaccine: Free for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (age as per the NIP schedule) in the Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia
- Hepatitis B vaccine: Free for catch-up of missed doses for all people aged <20 years, all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants
- Haemophilus influenza type B vaccine: Free for people with asplenia or hyposplenia, for catch-up of missed doses for all people aged <5 years, and for all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants
- Human papillomavirus vaccine: Free for adolescents aged 12–13 years, for catch-up of missed doses for all people aged <26 years, and for all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants
- Influenza vaccine: Free for people aged 6 months to <5 years and ≥65 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, pregnant women and people with specified medical conditions that increase their risk of influenza disease (for a full list of conditions eligible for NIP-funded influenza vaccines, refer to <u>ATAGI advice on seasonal influenza</u> vaccines in 2024)
- Measles-mumps-rubella vaccine: Free for catch-up of missed doses for all people aged <20 years, all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants
- Measles-mumps-rubella-varicella (chickenpox) vaccine: Free for catch-up of missed doses for all people aged <20 years, all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants
- Meningococcal ACWY vaccine: Free for children aged 12 months (Nimenrix), adolescents aged 14–16 years (MenQuadfi), for people with certain medical risk conditions (inherited defects or deficiency of properdin or complement components, current or future treatment with eculizumab, functional or anatomical asplenia), for catch-up of missed doses for all people aged <20 years, and for all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants of any age.
- Meningococcal B vaccine: Free for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with certain medical risk conditions (inherited defects or deficiency of properdin or complement components; current or future treatment with eculizumab; functional or anatomical asplenia; HIV, regardless of disease stage or CD4+ cell count; haematopoietic stem cell transplant), all non-Indigenous people with certain risk conditions (inherited defects or deficiency of properdin or complement components, current or future treatment with eculizumab, functional or anatomical asplenia), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants from 6 weeks of age (with a catch-up program for infants and young children aged less than 2 years), and for all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants of any age.
- Pneumococcal vaccine: 13vPCV (13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine) and 23vPPV (23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine) free for certain groups of adults under the NIP. 20vPCV (20-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine) free for non-Indigenous children without risk conditions aged <5 years (including catch-up), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children with risk conditions aged <18 years.
- Poliomyelitis vaccine: Free for catch-up of missed doses for all people aged <20 years, all adult refugees and other humanitarian entrants
- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV): Free for pregnant women of all ages (including those aged less than 18 years) from 28 weeks gestation
- Zoster (shingles) vaccine: Shingrix brand vaccine is free for non-Indigenous adults aged ≥65 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults aged ≥50 years and people aged ≥18 years with certain severe immunocompromising conditions see <u>Table. Risk conditions and immunosuppressive therapies for zoster vaccination and eligibility for NIP funding</u>