

# The digital *Australian Immunisation Handbook*

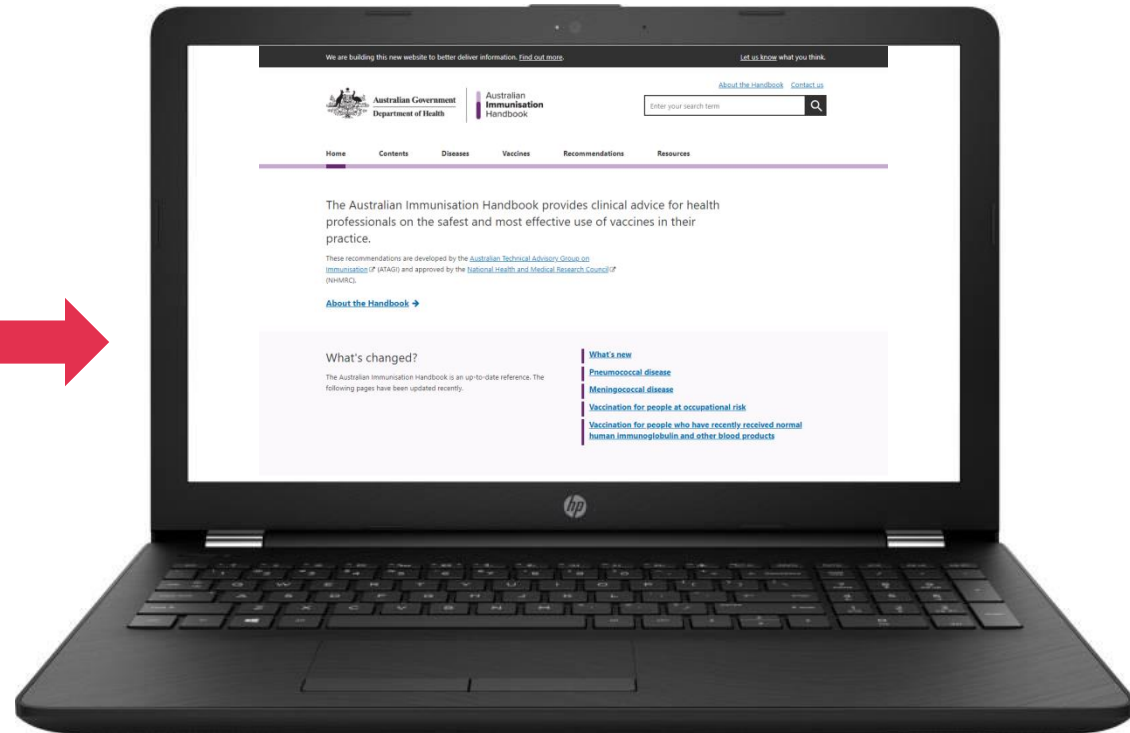
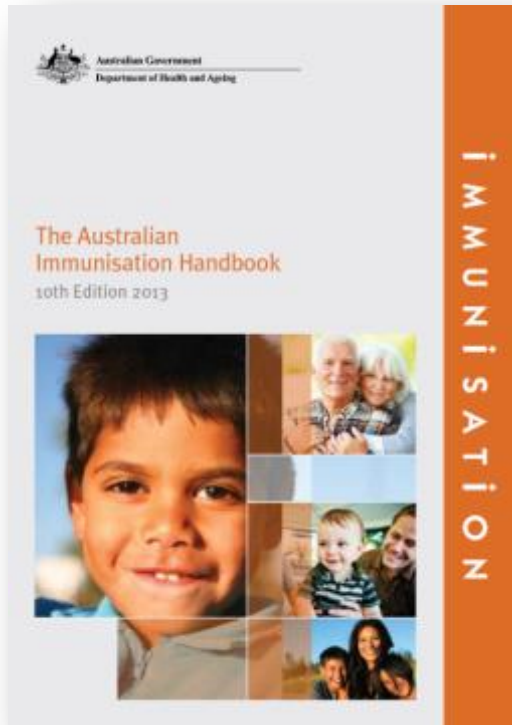
---

Dr Helen Quinn, NCIRS

<https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/>



# The digital Handbook



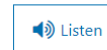


- Not a “new” Handbook
  - some updates to supporting evidence and references
- All 2018 schedule changes have been captured
  - HPV
  - Pneumococcal
  - Meningococcal
  - Hib



## What's new

We're creating a new Australian Immunisation Handbook website that's easier to understand and use.



[Expand all](#) / [Collapse all](#)

<b>New language, same evidence-based content</b>	▼
<b>Familiar structure</b>	▼
<b>More ways to get to the information you need</b>	▼
<b>New resources for busy health professionals</b>	▼
<b>Something wrong?</b>	▼

### About the Handbook

Development of the Handbook

How to use the Handbook

Updates to the Handbook

#### What's new?

Fundamentals of immunisation

Vaccination procedures

Catch-up vaccination

Vaccination for special risk groups

Vaccine preventable diseases



- Front page quicklinks
- Vaccine entry point
- Recommendations entry point
- Search function



- Split into separate chapters for easier access

## Vaccination for special risk groups

Advice and recommendations when vaccinating special risk groups



### In this section

[Vaccination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#)

[Vaccination for international travellers](#)

[Vaccination for migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum in Australia](#)

[Vaccination for people who are immunocompromised](#)

[Vaccination for women who are planning pregnancy, pregnant or breastfeeding](#)

About the Handbook

Fundamentals of immunisation

Vaccination procedures

Catch-up vaccination

**Vaccination for special risk groups**

Vaccination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Vaccination for international travellers



- Order of sections in disease chapter has changed
  - those more often used and clinically relevant moved up (e.g. recommendations, vaccines, contraindications and precautions)
- Recommendation order
  - age-based
  - special group (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, medical, pregnant women, occupation, travel, other)
  - laboratory testing



- **Hyperlinks**
  - some jump you to another section within the chapter
  - others take you away from the chapter
    - links to other chapters
    - tables/figures
- Some words in the body text are hyperlinked to a glossary





- All table and figures in the Handbook
- Publications icon - infographics
  - summaries of Handbook information in a printable sheet



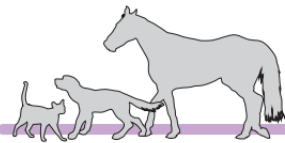
Australian Government  
Department of Health

Australian  
**Immunisation**  
Handbook

## Vaccination for people who have regular contact with animals



Check the immunisation history for anyone handling animals and give any missed vaccines.



People working in the veterinary industry



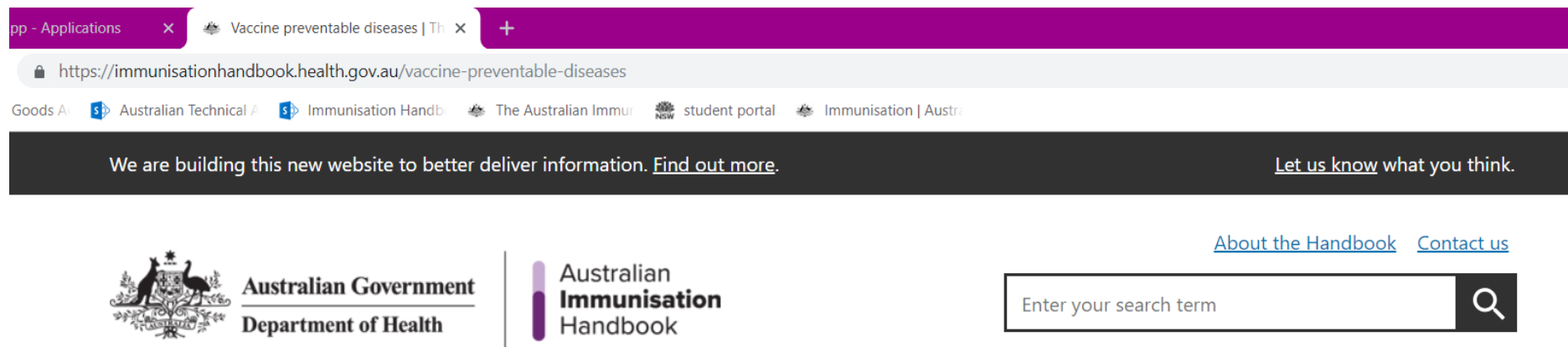
People working with poultry or swine



- No “whole” handbook printing
  - Can’t print and walk away, people keep returning to website
  - Necessary because of frequent updates
- Chapter printing can be done, using the “save as PDF” option in the web browser
  - Provides a hard copy of the text, but tables are not easy to read in this format
- For table printing, use the standalone tables in Resources
  - Use “scale” option to fit the table on the page – 70% works well
  - Most tables printed in this format will have the table header over multiple pages



- Your feedback is welcome
  - Preferred place is via the Handbook website



- For more immediate clinical information continue to telephone for advice, as appropriate in your state or territory

# Feedback and Updates



- New feedback process in place
  - Department of Health, NCIRS and Webmasters
  - Streamlined to identify “new” issues and provide them to correct reviewer
  - Regular review: technical content batched for monthly review
- Sign-off required, level depends on type of change or update
- Provision of feedback responses if an email address is given
- Aim for timely feedback/updates → months instead of annually



- Chapter updates
  - Based on feedback from handbook users
  - Other planned changes (new recommendations, practice points, epidemiology, new PI etc)
  - Key chapters for future updates: Rabies, Hepatitis B and catch-up
  - All changes to recommendations will go through a public consultation process



- Phase 2 of digital handbook
  - Further refinements to website layout and capabilities
  - In-built catch-up calculator
  - Handbook mobile app

Volunteer for user testing → provide details through website feedback section



- How to find out about updates?
  - Front page has “what’s changed” section
  - Changes to recommendations and key practice points appear at the top of each relevant disease page
  - Future subscription service planned providing alerts to updates and public consultation documents

# Acknowledgments



- NCIRS
  - Tracy Tsang
  - Deepika Jindal
  - Kristine Macartney
- Department of Health – Immunisation Branch