



Immunise for Life

Issue 19

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2019 FREE COMMUNITY SESSIONS ARE HELD AT:

- **Healesville Family & Children's centre**
- **Mooroolbark Community Centre**
- **Mooroolbark Senior Citizens Centre**
- **Monbulk Living & Learning Centre**
- **Lillydale Lake Community Room**
- **Sherbrooke Family and Children's Centre**
- **Belgrave Community Hub**
- **Upper Yarra Family Centre**

For session dates and times go to page six or phone 1300 368 333 or go to www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au

Online appointments—The Yarra Ranges Council Immunisation Service

An online appointment system was introduced in January 2017 with bookings being made through the Flexibuzz app or the Yarra Ranges Council website.

The new system has streamlined the registration process and in most cases has dramatically reduced waiting times. You will receive an email with the booking details and reminder text so you won't miss your appointment time.

To book an appointment go to:

www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/community/immunisation or

download the Flexibuzz app and follow the Yarra Ranges Council

or phone 1300 368 333 for assistance

Free flu vaccine for children in 2019

The flu vaccine will be available free during the 2019 season for all children aged over six calendar months and under five years of age. For children under nine years of age in the first year of administration, two doses are recommended a minimum of one month apart.

The flu vaccine will continue to be available free for:

- adults aged 65 years and over,
- during pregnancy
- all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over
- all age groups with chronic medical conditions that may lead to an increased risk of complications from influenza infection



More information about the flu vaccine and eligibility is available at www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/immunisation or www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Immunise for Life



Does your child need help catching up so they can enter pre-school?

If your child has been partially immunised or not immunised and you'd like to discuss a catch up program please phone the Yarra Ranges Council immunisation service.

We can arrange a chat with one of our specialist immunisation nurses who can discuss any concerns you have or give advice about a catch up schedule.

Important vaccine age limitations

Please be aware that if you come to an immunisation session when your child is not at the correct age we may be unable to immunise your child. If immunisation is required outside of the recommended age, e.g. due to travel, please contact your local GP for advice.

1. The first scheduled vaccination for your child can be given at six weeks of age. It cannot be administered even one day earlier than this.
2. The four and six month immunisations must have an eight week gap between them.
3. The two dose course of the Rotarix vaccine must commence prior to 15 weeks of age and be completed by 24 weeks and six days.
4. The 12 month immunisation cannot be given even one day early.
5. Vaccines scheduled at four years of age can no longer be given from three years and six months due to the addition of the Dtpa vaccine at 18 months.

Free whooping cough vaccine for new and expecting parents



The whooping cough vaccine is now free for the following groups:

- pregnant women from 28 weeks gestation during every pregnancy. This will provide protection for both the mother and baby.
- partners of women who are at least 28 weeks pregnant if the partner has not received a pertussis booster in the last ten years.
- parents/guardians where their baby is under six months of age and they have not received a whooping cough booster in the last 10 years.

The vaccine is available at all Yarra Ranges Council immunisation sessions as well as through your GP. Session times and appointments are available at www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/community/immunisation

Immunise for Life



Yarra Ranges Supported Playgroups

Free short term
program for
parents/carers
of children
aged 0-6 years



- * Come along and play
- * Safe & fun environment
- * Meet other parents/caregivers and children
- * Smalltalk program
- * Groups run by qualified facilitators
- * In-home support available
- * Find out about other programs in our community



Eligibility
criteria
applies

Healthy
snack
provided

Groups run throughout the school term at the following locations:

**Lilydale, Mt Evelyn, Mooroolbark, Selby, Upwey,
Millgrove and Healesville**

For more information and to register
please contact the Early Years Team

P: 1300 368 333

E: earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au



Immunise for Life



Are your child's immunisation records up to date?

When a child is immunised in Australia the medical provider of the service is required to forward the information to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR). This information is used to determine the status of your child for school entry, pre-school, family tax benefits, childcare and childcare benefits.

Statements are issued from the AIR when a child is 18 months and five years of age. If your child's status is shown as not up to date, Centrelink, the AIR or Local Government may contact you. If there are records missing from the Australian register please contact the Yarra Ranges Council immunisation service on 1300 368 333 or the administering provider for assistance.

Please contact Centrelink on 136 150 for more information about the Family Tax Benefit Part A or childcare benefits.

You can check your child's immunisation status on the Medicare Australia website or by phoning the AIR on 1800 653 809.

If your child has received any immunisation overseas these records need to be updated onto the AIR by an immunisation provider. Please contact the Yarra Ranges Council immunisation service on 1300 368 333 or your local GP for assistance.

Not all recommended vaccines are funded on the national or state program

Although the current Victorian immunisation schedule protects against 14 serious diseases there are some recommended vaccines and booster doses that are not funded.

Meningococcal B vaccine is highly recommended and is available in Australia however it is not on the free schedule in Victoria. Please contact your GP clinic for information about the availability of this vaccine.

The vaccine to protect against the **meningococcal ACW&Y** strains was added to the national schedule at 12 months of age from 1st July 2018. Prior to this children received vaccination against the meningococcal C strain only. Please **Speak to your GP clinic or make an appointment at one of our community sessions from 1st March 2019 if you wish to purchase this vaccine for yourself or family.**

Although the Varicella vaccine is included in the national schedule, this one dose will provide approximately 85% protection. A second, non-funded dose is recommended which will reduce the incidence of breakthrough varicella. This vaccine can be purchased through the free community sessions or your GP clinic.

Further information about these diseases and the recommendations is available at:

- www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/immunisation
- www.knowmeningococcal.com.au





Immunise for Life

Venues	Session Dates and Times												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Mooroolbark Community Centre Brice Ave, Mooroolbark	9.30-11.00am Tuesday	Jan X	Feb 5	Mar 5	Apr 2	May 7	Jun 4	Jul 2	Aug 6	Sept 3	Oct 1	Nov x	Dec 3
	12.30 - 1.30pm Tuesday	Jan 22	Feb 26	Mar 26	Apr 23	May 28	Jun 25	Jul 23	Aug 27	Sept 24	Oct 22	Nov 26	Dec 24
Mooroolbark Senior Citizen's Centre Brice Ave, Mooroolbark	5.30-7pm Wednesday	Jan 9	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 10	May 8	Jun 12	Jul 10	Aug 14	Sept 11	Oct 9	Nov 13	Dec 11
	9.30-11.30am Tuesday	Jan 8	Feb 12	Mar 12	Apr 9	May 14	Jun 11	Jul 9	Aug 13	Sept 10	Oct 8	Nov 12	Dec 10
Lilydale Lake Community Room Swansea Rd, Lilydale	4.30-6.30pm Wednesday	Jan 16	Feb 20	Mar 20	Apr 17	May 15	Jun 19	Jul 17	Aug 21	Sept 18	Oct 16	Nov 20	Dec 18
	9.30-10.30am Tuesday	Jan 15	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 16	May 21	Jun 18	Jul 16	Aug 20	Sept 17	Oct 15	Nov 19	Dec 17
Upper Yarra Family Centre Cnr Hoddle & Main St, Yarra Junction	6.45-7.30pm Wednesday	Jan 23	Feb X	Mar 27	Apr X	May 22	Jun X	Jul 24	Aug X	Sept 25	Oct X	Nov 27	Dec X
	11.30-12pm Tuesday	Jan 15	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 16	May 21	Jun 18	Jul 16	Aug 20	Sept 17	Oct 15	Nov 19	Dec 17
Healesville Family & Children's Centre Vimy Ridge, Healesville	5-5.45pm Wednesday	Jan 23	Feb X	Mar 27	Apr X	May 22	Jun X	Jul 24	Aug X	Sept 25	Oct X	Nov 27	Dec X
	5.30-7.00pm Wednesday	Jan X	Feb 6	Mar 6	Apr 3	May 1	Jun 5	Jul 3	Aug 7	Sept 4	Oct 2	Nov 6	Dec 4
Sherbrooke Children's Centre Cnr Burwood Hwy and Mast Gully Road, Upwey	10am - 11am Tuesday	Jan 22	Feb 26	Mar 26	Apr 23	May 28	Jun 25	Jul 23	Aug 27	Sept 24	Oct 22	Nov 26	Dec 24
	12.30pm-1pm Tuesday	Jan 8	Feb 12	Mar 12	Apr 9	May 14	Jun 11	Jul 9	Aug 13	Sept 10	Oct 8	Nov 12	Dec 10

PLEASE BOOK AN APPOINTMENT AT ANY SESSION BY PHONING 1300 368 333 OR GO TO YARRARANGES.VIC.GOV.AU/COMMUNITY/IMMUNISATION OR ON THE FLEXIBUZZ APP