

## Influenza (flu) vaccine for children

- > Children aged 6 months to less than 5 years can receive the influenza vaccine for free.
- > WA primary school-aged children can also receive the influenza vaccine for free (pre-primary to year 6).
- > Influenza is a highly contagious disease.
- > Children are at risk of serious health complications if they get influenza.

Influenza, commonly known as flu, is a highly contagious disease caused by the influenza virus. Children are at higher risk of serious complications from influenza.

It is strongly recommended that children from six months are immunised against influenza every year.

### Why should children get the influenza vaccine?

Rates of influenza infection and hospitalisation are highest among children.

Children who become infected with influenza can develop serious illnesses, including convulsions (seizures or fits) and diarrhoea.

The majority of childhood influenza-related hospitalisations and deaths occur among children without underlying medical conditions.

### Where can I get my child get vaccinated?

The influenza vaccine is available in metropolitan and country WA from [immunisation providers including GPs, community immunisation clinics and Aboriginal Medical Services](#). **Note:** Consultation fees may apply.

### More information

- > Contact your GP or immunisation provider.
- > Learn more about [influenza](#).
- > Learn more about the [influenza vaccine](#).
- > [Protect yourself from viruses](#).

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Public Health

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### See also

- > [Influenza \(flu\) vaccine in pregnancy - what expectant mothers need to know](#)
- > [Influenza \(flu\) vaccine for people aged 65 years and over](#)
- > [Immunisation](#)
- > [Immunisation](#)

### Related sites

- > [Sharing Knowledge About Immunisation \(external site\)](#)