

NSW School Vaccination program – What are we protecting against?

HPV – Human Papillomavirus

HPV disease affects both male and female and causes several cancers including cervical, vulval, vaginal, anal, penile and oropharyngeal (throat, tongue and tonsils).

In NSW, the target for Year 7 students to have received a course of HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine (1 dose) is set at 80%.

The school immunisation program is the largest provider of HPV vaccine and plays a major role in Australia's commitment to meet the WHO HPV elimination of cervical cancer strategy.

Currently Australia is on track to be the first country in the world to eliminate cervical cancer by as early as 2028 to 2035, through a combination of HPV vaccination, screening and treatment.

To meet this target it is important that we maintain a high coverage rate of at least 80%

HPV resources for parents and school staff members.

<http://www.hpvvaccine.org.au/parents/parents-resources.aspx>

dTpa – Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis

This is the first adult booster dose of diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine for students.

MenACWY – Meningococcal ACWY

Meningococcal disease is a serious, sometimes fatal illness.

Meningococcal disease can affect anyone, but it is more common among children under 5 yrs old, and adolescents and young adults aged 15-25 years old.

- Up to 10% of people with meningococcal disease die, even with rapid treatment
- Symptoms usually present suddenly and people infected with meningococcal disease can become extremely unwell, very quickly, often within hours of the first symptoms appearing.
- Up to 40% may end up with significant long-term effects, including limb or digit amputation or skin scarring.

This link contains important information about Meningococcal disease [Meningococcal \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/health-and-care-services/conditions-and-diseases/meningococcal-disease)

Vaccines are safe and effective.

AUSVAXsafety information:

HPV and dTpa - [12-13 years Schedule point | AusVaxSafety](#)

Meningococcal ACWY - [14-16 years Schedule point | AusVaxSafety](#)

Unfortunately some information available online can be confusing and false at times, if you wish to discuss any disease or vaccine information please contact us at hnelhd-pophealthschoolvax@health.nsw.gov.au.

More information is available on the NSW Health website at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/schoolvaccination.aspx>