

12th January 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian

In 2022, students will be offered free vaccinations recommended by the National Immunisation Program as part of a school based vaccination program.

Students in Year 7 will be offered a diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (dTpa) vaccine and a course of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. Those students who were born overseas or have a parent who was born overseas will also be offered a Mantoux test (to determine exposure to Tuberculosis).

All students in Year 9 will be offered the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in years 9 and 10 are eligible to receive a pneumococcal vaccine.

Your child's school will notify you of the specific dates the vaccine program will occur.

YEAR LEVEL	VACCINE GIVEN in Term 1	Vaccine given in Term 1 or 2	VACCINE GIVEN in Term 3 or 4
Year 7	Human Papillomavirus (HPV)* Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa) Mantoux skin test ⁵	Yes	HPV Advise if student immunocompromised, may require 3 doses
Year 9	Meningococcal ACWY Aboriginal Students only Pneumococcal & Influenza	Yes	
Year 10	Aboriginal students only Pneumococcal & Influenza	Yes	

* HPV vaccine is given as a course of 2 injections over a period of 6 months.

⁵ Mantoux (Tuberculosis) skin testing is offered to Year 7 students who were born overseas or have a parent who was born overseas.

Consent

No vaccines or Mantoux test will be given without parental consent.

Please read and return signed the enclosed consent forms to your child's school as quickly as possible, even if you don't wish to have your child vaccinated at school.

Vaccine Service Delivery

Vaccinations will be provided on specified days by Health Promoting School Nurses who are qualified immunisation providers. It is safe to administer more than one vaccine on the same day. If more than one vaccine is administered they may be given in separate arms. At each visit your child will be given a record of the vaccination and advice for care after vaccination.

Additional Information:

If you have any queries about the school based vaccination program please contact your school's nurse or the Centre for Disease Control in your area.

Visit: <https://nt.gov.au/wellbeing/healthy-living/immunisation/child-vaccinations>

Yours sincerely



Clinical Nurse Manager, Immunisation,
Centre for Disease Control

Student Details

Student First Name: _____ Student Last Name: _____

Other Legal Names (if applicable): _____

Sex: Male Female

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___

Address: _____

Medicare No:

Non-Aboriginal Aboriginal Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Torres Strait Islander

School: _____ Class/Year: _____

Allergies: No Yes - list _____

Pre-Vaccination Checklist

Your consent is required before your child can be immunised at school. Your child should not be immunised if any of the following apply:

- They have had a pneumococcal (Pneumovax®23) vaccination in the past five years
- They are known to have had a severe reaction to any vaccine or part of a vaccine
- They have a fever of 38.5°C or above on the day of immunisation
- They are pregnant or could be pregnant.

Consent for Vaccination - For Parent / Guardian to complete

I consent for my child to receive the **Pneumococcal (Pneumovax®23) vaccine** and the information being recorded*. *Tick one box only.*



YES

NO

Parent / Guardian Name: _____ Daytime phone contact: _____

Email: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Privacy Information

*The information on this form will be recorded on the NT Immunisation Register and then transferred to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR). Inclusion on these registers is voluntary. All personal information collected by the NT Department of Health will be handled in accordance with the *Information Act* and the Department's Privacy Policy. Personal information disclosed to the AIR is subject to the *Privacy Act* (Commonwealth).

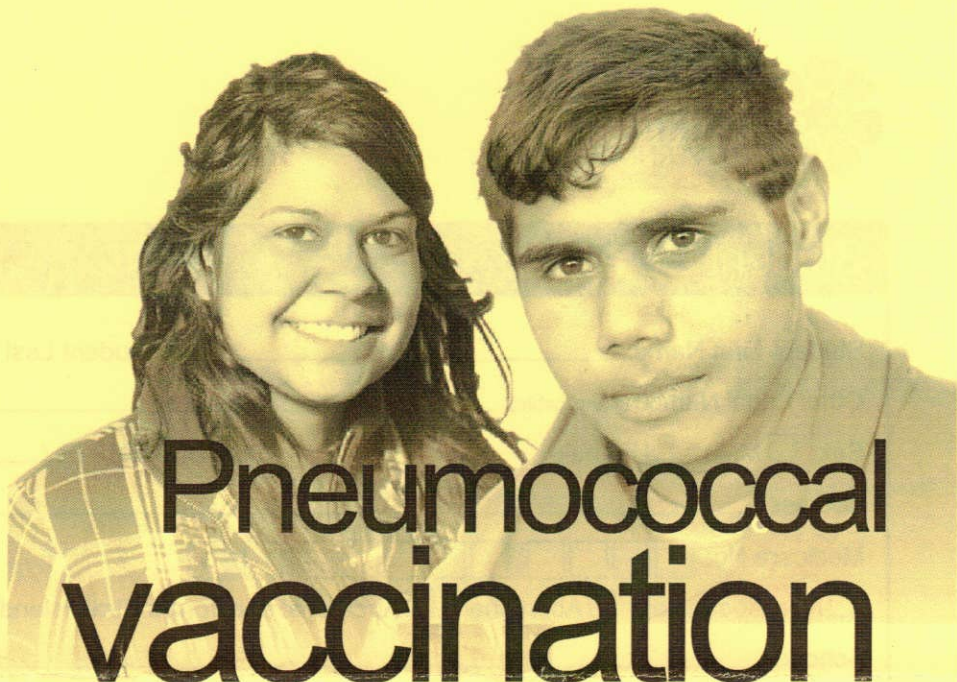
For further information on privacy laws, visit: <https://infocomm.nt.gov.au/about-us/the-information-act>

Office use only

Vaccine Dose	Date Given	Batch Number	Site		Vaccinator Name
Pneumovax®23 #1			Left	Right	
Reason not vaccinated: <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/> Refused <input type="checkbox"/> Unwell <input type="checkbox"/> No consent <input type="checkbox"/> Missed dose letter sent ___ / ___ / ___					

For further information regarding the School Vaccination Program please contact: Darwin **8922 8044** or Regional Centres: Katherine **8973 9049**; Alice Springs **8951 7549**; Nhulunbuy **8987 0357**; Tennant Creek **8962 4259**.

Please complete and **return this form** to school, even if you decide not to immunise your child at school. It is a legal requirement to give consent to receive the vaccine and authorise release of information as discussed below.



Pneumococcal vaccination

Aboriginal people aged 14 years and over

In the Northern Territory, **Aboriginal people aged 14 years and over (Years 9 /10)** are eligible to receive a pneumococcal (Pneumovax®23) vaccine. If your child can't be vaccinated at school or misses out because of illness or absence, you can visit a Community Care Centre, Aboriginal Health Service or GP for vaccination. The vaccine is free however, be aware that if visiting a GP you may have to pay a consultation fee.

Information and Consent for Vaccination

■ What is pneumococcal disease?

Many healthy people carry the pneumococcal bacteria in their nose and throat; especially young children. There are more than 90 different types of pneumococcal bacteria. The bacteria can be spread to others by direct oral contact such as kissing or contact with articles soiled with infected mouth or nose secretions. Occasionally the bacteria will cause an infection by invading the body or blood stream most commonly resulting in pneumonia. It is uncommon to get infected from a person who is sick with pneumococcal disease.

■ Why only offer this vaccine to students of Aboriginal descent?

Anyone can get pneumococcal disease though it is more common for young children, the elderly, Aboriginal people, people who smoke, people with chronic illness and those with weakened immune systems to contract the disease and become unwell.

All babies and older people are routinely vaccinated. Since 2001 Aboriginal children from age 15 years have also been offered a vaccine in the NT. The vaccine offered helps protect people from 23 different types of the pneumococcal bacteria.

■ How is the vaccine given?

The vaccine is given as an injection (needle) into a muscle in the upper arm.

■ What about side effects?

Common side effects of the vaccine include tenderness, redness and swelling at the injection site for 1-2 days, and/or a mild fever. Putting a cool wet cloth on the injection site and giving paracetamol helps to relieve pain and lower temperature. Severe allergic reactions are very rare.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Sex: Male Female

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___

Non-Aboriginal Aboriginal Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Torres Strait Islander

Community: _____ Any severe reaction to previous vaccines No Yes - list _____

In the Northern Territory all people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent aged 6 months and over are eligible to receive an influenza (flu) vaccine every year.

Influenza (Flu) Vaccine Consent Form

What is influenza (flu)?

Influenza or flu is a respiratory infection which spreads from person to person through the air and on your hands. If you get the flu you may get a high fever, bad cough, joint pains, body aches, have difficulty breathing and feel really tired. Most people only get sick for a week but some people get sicker and need to go to hospital. The flu can cause pneumonia or bronchitis, and can make some existing illnesses worse. Some people can die from the flu.

Can influenza (flu) be prevented?

Yes, flu can be prevented by vaccination. The flu needle protects you from four different types of flu. Because the flu changes all the time and the vaccine wears out, it is recommended to get a flu needle every year.

How is the vaccine given?

The vaccine is given as an injection (needle) into a muscle in the upper arm.

What about side effects?

The flu vaccine is a safe and effective vaccine. It does not contain any live virus, so people can not catch the flu from having the vaccine.

Common side effects of the vaccine include pain, redness and swelling at the injection site for 1-2 days, mild fever and muscle pains. Putting a cool wet cloth on the injection site and giving paracetamol (Panadol[®]) helps to relieve pain and lower the temperature. Severe allergic reactions are rare.

Consent for Vaccination - For Parent / Guardian to complete

Your consent is required before your child can be vaccinated at school. Your child shouldn't get the influenza (flu) needle if:

- They are known to have had a severe reaction to a needle before.
- They have a high fever on the day of the needle.

I consent for my child to receive the **influenza (flu) vaccine** and for the information to be recorded*.

▶ Tick one box only **YES** **NO**

Parent / Guardian Name: _____ Phone contact: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Privacy Information

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Office use only

Vaccine Dose	Date Given	Batch Number	Site		Vaccinator Name
			Left	Right	
Influenza #1					

Reason **not** vaccinated: Absent Refused Unwell No consent Missed dose letter sent ___ / ___ / ___

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