


Optional Vaccine Administration Sites for Childhood Vaccinations in SA

Current as of April 2021

6 weeks and 4 months

Infanrix hexa® (IM)
Prevenar 13® (IM)




Rotarix® (ORAL)
Check age limit for Dose 1 and Dose 2

Bexsero® (IM)

6 months

Infanrix hexa® (IM)
Vaccine may be given in the left antero-lateral thigh if Bexsero® is not required

Prevenar 13® (IM) for:
• Aboriginal children
• Children with certain medical risk factors
• Refer to AIH* online




Bexsero® (IM)
Children ≥6 months with certain medical conditions may require an additional dose of Meningococcal B vaccine at 6 months of age – refer to AIH* online.


Annual Influenza funded for:
• All children ≥6 months to less than 5 years of age.
• All Aboriginal* people ≥6 months.
• All people ≥6 months with certain medical risk conditions - refer to AIH* online.

12 months

Nimenrix® (IM)
Prevenar 13® (IM)

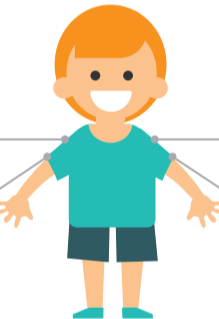


M-M-R II (IM or SC) or Priorix® (IM or SC)
Bexsero® (IM)

 Additional dose of Hepatitis B vaccine recommended at 12 months for low birth weight (<2000gms) and/or infants born at <32 weeks gestation - refer to AIH* online. Refer to the 'administering multiple vaccines at one visit' note below.

18 months


Infanrix® (IM) or Tripacel® (IM)
Act-HIB® (IM)



Proquad® (IM or SC) or Priorix-Tetra® (IM or SC)
Vaqta® paediatric (hepatitis A) (IM)
Aboriginal children only

4 years

Infanrix® IPV (IM) or Quadracel® (IM)



Vaqta® paediatric (hepatitis A) (IM)
Aboriginal children only
Pneumovax 23® (IM)
Aboriginal children only

Providers should note: A 2nd dose of Pneumovax 23® is due in 5 years. Aboriginal children only.

Before Vaccination:

- Adrenaline Kit readily available.
- Confirm vaccine cold chain maintained.
- Pre-vaccination checklist completed.
- Identify all medically at risk children and Aboriginal* children – requiring additional vaccines as per AIH* online.
- Check child's immunisation history on AIR*.
- Informed consent obtained and documented.
- Check if the vaccine needs to be reconstituted.
- Ensure correct vaccine for age and give all schedule vaccines in one visit if possible.

Post Vaccination:

- Child remains in clinic for 15 minutes.
- Provide parent/carer with written post vaccination advice.
- Add recall reminder for next visit or book next appointment.

Bexsero®

- Children <2 years of age are recommended to receive prophylactic paracetamol 30 minutes before or as soon as practical after Bexsero® vaccination.
- Advise parent/carer to follow up with 2 more doses of paracetamol given 6 hours apart, regardless of whether the child has a fever or not.
- Children <2 years of age can receive Bexsero® with other scheduled vaccines.
- Children <2 years of age can receive Bexsero® separately from other infant vaccines, with a minimum interval of 3 days.

At Risk Groups

- Additional Men B and Men ACWY vaccines are recommended and funded for all people with:
 - Asplenia,
 - Hyposplenia,
 - Complement deficiency
 - Treatment with Eculizumab
- Refer to AIH* online.

Intramuscular (IM) 90° to skin plane



Infant or Child
22–25 gauge, 25mm long

Preterm infant (<37 weeks gestation) up to 2 months of age, and/or very small infant
23–25 gauge, 16mm long

If using a 25 gauge needle for an intramuscular vaccination, inject the vaccine slowly over a count of 5 seconds.

Aboriginal*: is inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

AIH* online: Australian Immunisation Handbook online

AIR*: Australian Immunisation Register

Subcutaneous (SC) 45° to skin plane



Infant or Child
25–27 gauge, 16mm long

Administering multiple vaccines at one visit

Ensure 2.5cm between injections in the same muscle. If the child is receiving multiple vaccines at 12 months or greater and deltoid muscles mass is inadequate, give the less reactogenic vaccines (e.g. MMR and/or MenACWY) in anterolateral thigh.