

# Administration of Vaccines by Pharmacists at places other than Pharmacies in the Northern Territory Protocol

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<b>Document title</b>	Administration of Vaccines by Pharmacists at places other than Pharmacies in the Northern Territory Protocol
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### 1.1.1. Title

Administration of vaccines by pharmacists at places other than pharmacies in the Northern Territory (NT).

### 1.1.2. Areas Applicable

Places other than pharmacies.

### 1.1.3. Drug

- Influenza vaccine
- Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) vaccine
- Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis vaccine
- Adrenaline

### 1.1.4. Indication

Vaccination according to the 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' (electronic version)

### 1.1.5. Contraindications and/or Exclusions

The following persons who have a reason for exclusion after completing the pre- vaccination checklist must be referred to their general medical practitioner or primary health care provider:

- Persons under 10 years of age for influenza vaccine and adrenaline.
- Persons under 16 years of age for MMR vaccine and Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis vaccine.
- Persons with contraindications to vaccinations as listed in the current edition of the 'Australian Immunisation Handbook'.
- Persons with immune-compromising conditions from medications or diseases who require MMR vaccine.

For all vaccines:

- Follow any additional vaccine specific contraindications described in the relevant chapters in the 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' (electronic version).

### 1.1.6. Dose & Route<sup>\*</sup>

As per the 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' (electronic version) both intramuscular or subcutaneous administration, but not for intradermal administration of influenza vaccine.

### 1.1.4. Dose frequency<sup>\*</sup>

As per 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' (electronic version).

### 1.1.7. Administration<sup>\*</sup>

As per 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' (electronic version).

### 1.1.8. Drug Interactions\*

As per the 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' (electronic version)

- Refer to the Australian Immunisation Handbook for specific vaccines and their interactions with immunoglobulins and blood products.
- MMR vaccine must be given at the same time as other live vaccines or at least 4 weeks after another live vaccine such as yellow fever and varicella vaccine.
- Mantoux testing should not be done until 4 weeks after the administration of measles containing vaccines.
- Refer to vaccine specific chapters in the 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' for specific drug interactions with each vaccine

References:

\*The drug information provided is to act as a guide only, for further information reference should be made to the full manufacturer's product info and other reliable sources of medicines information. If contraindications or interactions are present refer to medical officer before administration.

### 1.1.9. Monitoring Requirements

- Patients who qualify for the National Immunisation Program must be offered referral to their local clinic or general practitioner but can be vaccinated if they choose that service and understand the cost.
- Ensure vaccines are stored according to National Storage Guidelines 'Strivefor Five'.
- Assess patient suitability for vaccination at the pharmacy with pre-vaccination screening questionnaire.
- Contact the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) - for previous immunisation record if required.
- Contact NT Immunisation Team for additional advice if required - Phone: 8922 8315.
- Obtain patient consent to be vaccinated.
- Provide advice to the patient on action to take if adverse reaction detected once leaving the pharmacy. Observe the patient post administration for 15 minutes for adverse reaction and
- If an adverse event occurs, an 'Adverse event following vaccination' form must be completed and sent to the Centre for Disease Control (CDC).

### 1.1.10. Pharmacist Accreditation Requirements

Before 1 January 2017 Successful completion of:

- APPIMM806A - Manage the delivery and administration of injections and immunisations - Pharmaceutical Society of Australia;

Or

- 10455NAT - Course in conduct immunisation services within a community pharmacy environment - Pharmacy Guild of Australia;

After 1 January 2017 Successful completion of:

- a training program accredited to meet the standards set by the Australian Pharmacy Council's 'Standards for the accreditation of programs to support Pharmacist Administration of vaccines'.

This course must include training for the influenza, measles, mumps, rubella and diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis vaccines and adrenaline for anaphylaxis.

For Children aged 10 to 15 years

Successful completion of

- a training program accredited to meet the standards set by the Australian Pharmacy Council's 'Standards for the accreditation of programs to support Pharmacist Administration of vaccines', which includes a module on childhood vaccination.

All

- General registration with the Pharmacy Board of Australia with no conditions or undertakings which may limit delivery of clinical services directly to patients.
- Ensure adherence to Professional Practice standards and guidelines relevant to the delivery of immunisation services.
- Maintain continuing professional development in the delivery of immunisation services.
- Current certificate Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA) 'Anaphylaxis e-training for pharmacists'.
- Current first aid certificate.
- Current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
- Consumers should be able to observe copies of these certificates if requested.

### 1.1.11. Premises Requirements

Premises and equipment

- The place must be a safe place in which to perform vaccinations, with easily accessible running water for washing hands or hand sanitiser. Infection control measures, equipment, and cold chain preservation must be as specified in the 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/vaccination-procedures/preparing-for-vaccination>
- Privacy of the consumer must be a consideration in site selection and setup.

Staffing

- Staffing levels must be appropriate for the number of people being vaccinated to assist in cold chain management, record keeping and management of adverse reactions.

Audit requirements

- Participate in periodic audits of premises and educational requirements by the NT Department of Health.

### 1.1.12. Documentation (including necessary information to the patient)

Documentation, policies and procedures must be kept for the following:

- Medicine storage and handling according to the NT Medicines Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2012
- Pre-vaccination checklist
- Storage and handling of vaccines and cold chain monitoring
- Patient exclusion and referral to general practitioner or other NIP service
- Obtaining and documenting patient consent
- Vaccine Administration
- Post vaccination patient monitoring
- Handling of sharps, maintaining infection control including management of needle stick injury and exposure to blood or body fluids
- Anaphylaxis response kit
- Managing anaphylaxis and vaso-vagal episodes
- Adverse events management and reporting
- Completion and submission of NT 'Adverse Event following Immunisation' form if required.
- Vaccination documentation and record keeping
- Reporting to the Australian immunisation register (AIR) within 14 days of administration
- Sharps and clinical waste disposal
- An exit strategy covering site closure and staff absences
- Staff training and credentialing as outlined in this protocol.
- Staff training package to ensure adherence to this protocol and induction procedures
- Medication documentation and record keeping as per MPTG Regulations 73 to 77
- The records must include the following information:
  - Vaccine brand, batch number, patient name, address, date of birth, contact details, date the vaccines was given and pharmacist name.

All records must be kept for a minimum of seven years from vaccine administration date, be available for inspection on demand by an authorised officer under the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2012 and be managed following data security and privacy standards.

### 1.1.13. Related documents

- This protocol is to be used in conjunction with:
- 'Australian Immunisation Handbook' electronic version  
<https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/>
- National Vaccine Storage Guidelines 'Strive for 5' electronic version
- <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/national-vaccine-storage-guidelines-strive-for-5>

- NT Immunisation Program website <https://nt.gov.au/wellbeing/healthy-living/immunisation>
- 'Premises and Equipment Standard for Pharmacy Based Immunisation Programs' as published by the NT Pharmacy Premises Committee
- <https://health.nt.gov.au/health-governance/department-of-health/committees-regulations-advisory-groups/pharmacy-premises-committee>
- Pharmaceutical Society of Australia 'Practice Guidelines for the provision of Immunisation Services within a Pharmacy'
- <http://www.psa.org.au>