

## Additional vaccine recommendations for children (<18 years) with asplenia/hyposplenia- March 2022

Table 1: Pneumococcal vaccination		
Brand	Prevenar 13® ( <i>Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine 13vPCV</i> )	Pneumovax 23® ( <i>Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine 23vPPV</i> )
Age at diagnosis	Dose	Dose
≥ 6 weeks to ≤ 11 months	3 doses (min. 8 weeks apart) + 1 booster <sup>¥β§</sup>	Single dose at ≥ 4 years <sup>^</sup>
≥ 12 months	Single dose at diagnosis <sup>Ω^β§</sup>	Single dose at ≥ 4 years <sup>^</sup>
Additional booster doses		
	N/A	5 years following completion of initial dose <sup>Σ</sup>

<sup>¥</sup> Doses as per NIP at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months (additional dose for those with a special risk condition) and routinely at 12 months of age.

<sup>β</sup> Booster doses are given at ≥ 12 months of age/8 weeks since previous dose (whichever is later).

<sup>§</sup> If not up to date with NIP recommendations refer to <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/catch-up-vaccination> for catch up advice.

<sup>^</sup> Ideally Prevenar 13® is administered first, followed by Pneumovax 23® at ≥ 4 years of age/minimum of 8 weeks later (whichever is later). If Pneumovax 23® is inadvertently administered first, a minimum of 12 months should elapse before administering Prevenar 13®.

<sup>Ω</sup> To be given a minimum of 8 weeks following any previous doses.

<sup>Σ</sup> Maximum of 2 doses of Pneumovax 23® in a lifetime.

Table 2: Meningococcal vaccination		
Brand	Nimenrix® ( <i>Meningococcal Quadrivalent Conjugate Vaccine 4vMenCV ACWY</i> )	Bexsero® <sup>β€</sup> ( <i>Meningococcal B Recombinant Multicomponent Vaccine MenBV</i> )
Age at diagnosis	Dose	Dose
≥ 6-weeks to ≤ 5 months	3 doses (min. 8 weeks apart) + 1 booster <sup>¥¶</sup>	3 doses (min. 8 weeks apart) + 1 booster <sup>β¶§</sup>
≥ 6-months to ≤ 11 months	2 doses (min. 8 weeks apart) + 1 booster <sup>¥¶</sup>	2 doses (min. 8 weeks apart) + 1 booster <sup>β¶§</sup>
≥ 12 months	2 doses (min. 8 weeks apart) <sup>¥</sup>	2 doses (min. 8 weeks apart) <sup>β§</sup>
Additional booster doses <sup>^</sup>		
Primary course completed at ≤ 6 years of age	First booster 3 years after completing primary course. Further booster doses every 5 years. <sup>£</sup>	First booster 3 years after completing primary course. Further booster doses every 5 years.
Primary course completed at ≥ 7 years of age	Every 5 years <sup>£</sup>	Every 5 years

<sup>β</sup> Prophylactic administration of paracetamol with every dose of Bexsero® administered to children <2 years of age is recommended due to the increased risk of fever. The 1st dose of paracetamol (15 mg/kg/dose) is recommended within the 30 minute period prior to, or as soon as practicable after, vaccination. This can be followed by 2 more doses of paracetamol given 6 hours apart, based on child's age and weight.

<sup>€</sup> Trumenba® is an alternate meningococcal B vaccine available as a 3-dose course for individuals with asplenia/hyposplenia. It is not funded on the NIP but may be considered where vaccine supply is an issue. Completing a course/booster dose with the same brand is preferred. For more information refer to <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/vaccine-preventable-diseases/meningococcal-disease>

<sup>¥</sup> 12 month dose given as scheduled on NIP.

<sup>¶</sup> Booster doses are given at ≥ 12 months of age/8 weeks since previous dose (whichever is later).

<sup>§</sup> From July 1 2020, Bexsero® was added to the NIP for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

<sup>^</sup> Refer to <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mening/hcp/recommendations.html> for more information.

<sup>£</sup> Year 10 secondary school/age equivalent dose scheduled on NIP.

Table 3: Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccination	
Brand	Infanrix hexa®/ActHIB®
Age at diagnosis	Dose
≥ 6-weeks	As per NIP <sup>^§</sup>

<sup>^</sup> If not up to date with NIP refer to <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/catch-up-vaccination> for catch up recommendations.

<sup>§</sup> Additional booster doses not required.

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Table 4: Influenza vaccination		
<b>Brand</b>	Variable- refer to <a href="http://www.mvec.vic.edu.au/immunisation-references/influenza-vaccine-recommendations/">http://www.mvec.vic.edu.au/immunisation-references/influenza-vaccine-recommendations/</a> for age-appropriate brands and details	
<b>Age at diagnosis</b>	<b>Dose</b>	
< 6-months	Not recommended <sup>£</sup>	
≥ 6-months	Recommended annually <sup>££</sup>	
<sup>£</sup> Immunisation of family members recommended. <sup>££</sup> 2 doses, given 4 weeks apart is recommended in the 1st year of receiving the vaccine.		
Table 5. COVID-19 vaccination		
<b>Brand</b>	Variable- refer to <a href="https://mvec.mcri.edu.au/references/covid-19-vaccination-in-children/">https://mvec.mcri.edu.au/references/covid-19-vaccination-in-children/</a> for more information	
<b>Age at diagnosis</b>	<b>Dose</b>	
≤ 4 years	Not currently recommended <sup>£</sup>	
≥ 5 years- 11 years	5-11 years Comirnaty (Pfizer) 10µ (orange cap)- 2 doses (8 weeks apart) <sup>£</sup>	6-11 years Spikevax (Moderna) 50µ (0.25ml)- 2 doses (8 weeks apart) <sup>£</sup>
≥ 12 years	Comirnaty (Pfizer) 30µ dose (purple cap)- 2 doses (3 weeks apart) <sup>£</sup>	Spikevax (Moderna) 100µ dose (0.5ml)- 2 doses (4 weeks apart) <sup>£</sup>
<b>Additional booster doses</b>		
≥ 16 years	All individuals aged ≥16 years are recommended to receive a booster dose ≥ 3 months following the primary course in order to be considered up to date. <b>16-17 years: only</b> Comirnaty (Pfizer) 30µ dose (purple cap) registered for use as a booster <b>≥ 18 years:</b> Comirnaty (Pfizer) 30µ <b>or</b> Spikevax (Moderna) 50µ (0.25ml) registered for use as a booster <sup>^</sup>	
<sup>£</sup> Immunisation of family members recommended. <sup>^</sup> Nuvaxovid (Novavax) is not currently registered for use as a booster dose however may be used in some circumstances. Refer to <a href="https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/atagi-recommendations-on-the-use-of-a-booster-dose-of-covid-19-vaccine">https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/atagi-recommendations-on-the-use-of-a-booster-dose-of-covid-19-vaccine</a> for more information.		