



National Indigenous Immunisation message stick (NIIMS) November 2014

A vaccine preventable diseases newsletter for health
services



“Through vaccination initiatives we have a simple, timely, cost effective and affordable means by which to impact upon Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander health.”(Dr Ngarie Brown)



Indigenous HPV vaccination

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander information about the national HPV program can now be found on the Immunise Australia website. The information is translated into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. The website has audio files that can be played, or downloaded and saved to your computer. The transcript of the information is also provided in English, audio and text.

The links are provided below.



HPV_Alyawarre (MP3 7.3mb – large file)	HPV_Pitjantjatjara (MP3 8.5mb – large file)
HPV_Anindilyakwa (MP3 8.6mb – large file)	HPV_Tiwi (MP3 6.4mb – large file)
HPV_Anmatjerre (MP3 7.4mb – large file)	HPV_Torres Strait Island Creole (MP3 4mb – large file)
HPV_Central_Arrente (MP3 8.3mb – large file)	HPV_WA_Kriol (MP3 4.5mb – large file)
HPV_Gurrindji (MP3 7.1mb – large file)	HPV_Walmajarri (MP3 7.5mb – large file)
HPV_Luritja_Pintupi (MP3 6.8mb – large file)	HPV_Wangkatha (MP3 5.7mb – large file)
HPV_Martu_Wangka (MP3 10.8mb – large file)	HPV_Warlpiri (MP3 7.3mb – large file)
HPV_Murrinh-Patha (MP3 6.6mb – large file)	HPV_Western_Arrente (MP3 7.8mb – large file)
HPV_Ngaanyatjarra (MP3 9mb – large file)	HPV_Yankunytjatjara (MP3 5.9mb – large file)
HPV_NT_Kriol (MP3 6.4mb – large file)	HPV_Yolngu Matha (MP3 6mb – large file)



HPV Transcript – English

[HPV English \(MP3 3.7mb – large file\)](#)

There are some germs that can make our young people sick.

One of these germs is called HPV and it can make you sick now and when you get older.

You can get HPV from sexual contact with someone who has the germ. It can cause cancers and a sexual disease in men and women. Anyone can have the HPV germ and not know they've got it. The HPV germ spreads easily through the community and you can get very sick from it.

There is a free medicine for boys and girls. Our young people aged 12-13 years can get free medicine from the nurse or doctor to protect against the HPV germ. Young fellas aged 14-15 years can also get the free medicine until the end of 2014.

If our young people get the medicine, it's the best protection from the HPV germ.

To be well protected from the HPV germ boys and girls need to have 3 HPV needles across 6 months. If lots of young people get the needle it will mean less people will get sick from cancers.

The HPV needle is free and will be given at school or at the health clinic.

Mums, dads or family looking after boys and girls are asked to say yes to the needle and may have to sign a paper. After you say yes and sign the paper, the nurse or doctor will give the medicine to your child.

The needle is safe and works well. After boys or girls get the needle, their arm might get a bit sore or they might feel a bit sick. This is OK. If you are worried after your child has the needle, talk to your local nurse or doctor or visit your health clinic.

Remember even after they get the HPV needle, both boys and girls will still need to see the doctor to have regular health checks.

For more information on Indigenous HPV go to the following link;

<http://hpv.health.gov.au/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-translations/>



National Centre for Immunisation Research & Surveillance (NCIRS) Indigenous web page

NCIRS now has an Indigenous web page. NCIRS is committed to improving Indigenous vaccination coverage and timeliness and to inform practice and policy for immunisation and vaccine preventable diseases relating to Aboriginal Australians.

NCIRS can see the potential that can be achieved through expanding the appropriate use of new and existing vaccines and improving Indigenous vaccination coverage and timeliness, and these are the messages NCIRS wish to promote.

Communication to service providers of the successes and barriers to immunisation service delivery for Aboriginal Australians is achieved through a range of publications and conference presentations.

NCIRS activities contribute to policy through participation on national and state based immunisation committees and providing reports to government .

Indigenous immunisation work at NCIRS is undertaken in three main areas;-

- Analysis of large national datasets
- Evaluation and grant-funded research
- National coordination



The NCIRS Indigenous web page is at the following link:

<http://www.ncirs.edu.au/indigenous/index.php>



Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR)

The ACIR is a national register that records details of vaccinations given to children under 7 years of age who live in Australia. Immunisation details are sent to the ACIR by recognised immunization providers.

The ACIR:

- is used to monitor immunisation coverage levels and service delivery, and to identify regions at risk during disease outbreaks
- can provide reports upon request to help identify children who are due or overdue for immunisation
- makes an information payment to you if you administer and notify the ACIR of a vaccination which completes 1 of the aged-based immunisation schedules funded under the National Immunisation Program

Data from the ACIR:

- enables you, as an immunisation provider, to check on the immunisation status of an individual child, regardless of where the child was immunised
- forms the basis of an Immunisation History Statement which informs parents and guardians of their child's recorded immunisation history
- provides information about a child's immunisation status to help determine eligibility for the Australian Government's Child Care Benefit and Family Tax Benefit Part A Supplement payments
- provides a measure of coverage at a national, state and territory and local level

It is important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to be identified and registered on ACIR.

For more information use the following link:

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/services/australian-childhood-immunisation-register/>



Influenza vaccination

Annual influenza vaccination is provided free through the National Immunisation Program (NIP) to groups who are at an increased risk of influenza complications.

This includes:

- People aged 65 years and over
- Pregnant women
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over
- Anyone aged 6 months and over who has a chronic condition placing them at increased risk of complications from influenza

note that bioCSL Fluvax should not be used in children under five.

More Influenza vaccination information can be found using the following links:

[Influenza page \(consumers\)](#)

[Video explaining the National Influenza Program](#)

[Questions and Answers for Influenza Vaccination](#)

[Information for Health Professionals](#)

[Influenza Resources](#)

[Full ATAGI statement on 2014 seasonal influenza vaccines](#)



If you have an issue that you would like to raise about immunisation and Indigenous people, email brendon.kelaher@health.nsw.gov.au

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