

Significant events in polio vaccination practice in Australia

Year	Month	Intervention
1955		Salk inactivated poliomyelitis vaccine (IPV) became available
1956	July	Mass production of IPV began at CSL IPV recommended and funded for adults and children, using a 3+1 dose schedule (minimum 1 month between primary doses and 1 year between 3rd and 4th doses)
1964		Sabin vaccine (live attenuated oral polio vaccine – OPV) registered after trials in Tasmania
1966		Sabin vaccine (schedule of 3 doses at 8-week intervals) recommended for all individuals irrespective of previous vaccination status
1975		First national vaccination schedule recommended and funded OPV for infants aged 6, 8 and 10 months
1982		3-dose infant vaccination with OPV scheduled at 2, 4 and 6 months of age instead of 6, 8 and 10 months 4th dose of OPV vaccine recommended and funded at 5 years of age or prior to school entry IPV available from CSL on a restricted basis for individuals in whom the OPV is contraindicated
1994	July	5th dose of OPV vaccine recommended and funded at 15–19 years of age or before leaving school
2001	April	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV and DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccines registered for primary immunisation in infants aged ≥ 6 weeks and as a booster in children aged 18 months
2002	April	First combined DTPa-IPV vaccine registered for primary immunisation in infants aged ≥ 6 weeks and as a booster in children aged 15 months–6 years
	August	Second combined DTPa-IPV vaccine registered for primary immunisation in infants aged 2–12 months and as a booster in children aged 15 months–6 years
	August	Combined DTPa-IPV-Hib vaccine registered for primary immunisation in infants aged 2–12 months and as a booster in children aged 15–20 months 5th dose of OPV at 15–17 years of age no longer recommended
2003	September	IPV recommended to replace OPV at 2, 4 and 6 months and 4 years of age (but not implemented)
2004	June	First combined dTpa-IPV vaccine registered for use in individuals aged ≥ 4 years
2005	November	IPV funded to replace OPV for children, in combination vaccine formulations (DTPa-hepB-IPV, DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib, DTPa-IPV, DTPa-IPV-Hib)
	November	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine used in ACT, NSW, TAS and WA (for non-Indigenous infants); DTPa-IPV vaccine used in other jurisdictions and in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants in WA
2006	March	Second combined dTpa-IPV vaccine registered for use in individuals aged ≥ 4 years
2008	March	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine used in QLD, SA and VIC

Year	Month	Intervention
2009	February	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine used in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants in WA
	March	Advice provided in NSW that 1st dose of DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine could be given as early as 6 weeks of age
	October	Pre-school booster dose of DTPa-IPV scheduled at 3.5–4 years instead of 4 years
	October	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine used in NT
2011	November	Advice provided nationally that 1st dose of DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine could be given as early as 6 weeks of age
2014	September	Second combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine registered for use in infants aged ≥ 6 weeks