

Immunisation Update for General Practice

27th of September 2021



A QUICK GUIDE TO ASSIST IMMUNISATION PROVIDERS

Closure of AIR authentication files

Authentication file access to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) is being closed to all provider types on 30 September 2021. More information can be found [here](#).

Funded zoster vaccination catch-ups end soon

People up to 79 years of age can receive a funded Zostavax® as part of a catch-up program until 31 October 2021. After this date, only 70-year-olds will be eligible for a free Zostavax®. The [NSW Immunisation Schedule](#) lists advice regarding the catch up program

ALERT: M-M-R II & Zostavax vial changes

The presentations of M-M-R II and Zostavax have changed to a vaccine vial and a diluent in a vial. The vaccines will need to be reconstituted with the diluent (the pre-filled syringes are no longer being supplied for the short to medium term) [Reconstitution guides](#)

Immunisation education

Save the date: Mastermind - Cold Chain update 12/10/2021
Mandatory Vaccinations in your Workplace register [here](#)

NSW Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act

The recent changes made to [NSW Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act](#) **DO NOT APPLY TO PRIMARY CARE FACILITIES**. The scope of practice for Nurses, Allied Health Practitioners and Students within private health facilities, has not changed. A supplementary email has been sent from your PCIO

Immunisation scope of practice

The Australian College of Nursing's [Nursing in General Practice](#) clearly explains the role of nurses working within General Practice when immunising. The NMBA [Decision Making Framework](#) can assist Nurses in determining safe, professional practice.

Nurses providing COVID vaccinations in pharmacy

Authorised Immunisers working within community pharmacies can assess suitability and administer COVID-19 vaccines in accordance with [Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Amendment \(COVID-19 Vaccine\) Regulation 2021](#). RNs or ENs require a medical practitioner to assess a patient's suitability for vaccination and provide an order to administer.

Ordering Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca) vaccine

It is NOT a requirement for you to continue to order a regular supply Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca) vaccines on a weekly basis. Regular supplies are automatically sent. Additional vaccines can be ordered for future bookings made. Order via the COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering System (CVAS).

REMINDER: batch numbers for COVID vaccines

Services Australia reports that a number of batch numbers for COVID-19 vaccines have been entered incorrectly or left blank. [Australian Government Department of Health](#)

Barcode scanners

Bar Code Scanners provided by the PHN are to be used for recording vaccine encounters. [Barcode scanner](#)
[Barcode Scanner A How To Guide for Best Practice](#)
[Barcode Scanner A How To Guide for Medical Director](#)

Proof of COVID vaccination - resources

A range of resources are now available. Visit the [Services Australia](#) to view the resources and for further information.

**DO YOU HAVE QUESTION DIRECTLY RELATING TO IMMUNISATION?
CONTACT YOUR PCIO OR EMAIL kwisemantel@thepnh.com.au**