

For PARENTS/GUARDIANS of Year 7 children

From 6 February 2023, the National Immunisation Program (NIP) dosing schedule for the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine has changed from two doses to a **single dose** for most people.

The information below explains the change so you are aware of how it affects your child.

How has the HPV vaccine schedule changed?

The recommended HPV vaccine schedule for most people has **changed from two-doses to a single dose** course using the same Gardasil®9 vaccine.

There is no change to the amount of vaccine that is given in the single dose.

Why was this change made?

The change is based on advice from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI), who have considered and reviewed the latest international clinical evidence. ATAGI support the large volume of clinical findings that a single dose of HPV vaccine provides about the same protection as two doses of HPV vaccine.

What about for people who are immunocompromised?

The schedule **has not changed for immunocompromised people**, and they should receive three doses of HPV vaccine which are all funded under the NIP.

If you are not sure if your child is immunocompromised, we recommend you discuss this with your child's GP.

What is the HPV vaccine?

The Gardasil®9 vaccine protects against HPV infection, which is a common viral infection, usually affecting the genitals and spread through sexual contact. The vaccine is most effective when given before exposure to the virus, that is before a person becomes sexually active.

More information about HPV and the HPV vaccine can be found [here](#).

<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/human-papillomavirus-hpv-immunisation>



Interpreter service

9840 9355

普通话 | 廣東話 | Ελληνικά

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What are the benefits of receiving the HPV vaccine?

The HPV vaccine Gardasil®9 protects against seven HPV types which cause over 90 per cent of cervical cancer in people with a cervix and over 90 per cent of HPV-related cancers in people without a cervix. It also protects against an additional two HPV types which cause 90 per cent of genital warts.

People who are vaccinated for HPV are best protected from being infected with a cancer-causing virus.

What do you need to do?

If you have already given consent for your child's HPV vaccination and agree to your child having one dose of Gardasil®9 vaccine instead of the previous two doses, you do not need to take any further action.

If you would like to discuss the change, or clarify any information contained in this letter please contact our Immunisation Team on 9840 9479.

Regards,

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