



Vaccine Update 493 - WA
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Australian Immunisation
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(IM011), National
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Free Influenza Vaccine Program extended to 31 July 2026

[The Free Influenza Vaccine Program](#) (the Program) has been extended until 31 July 2026. This will provide more time for Western Australians to protect themselves, their families and their communities from influenza.

To continue offering access to free influenza vaccines, the Program is being extended until 31 July 2026. As providers (community pharmacies, general practices, Aboriginal Medical Services and corporate vaccination service providers) were advised to purchase private influenza vaccine stock to use outside of Program months, the Department will offer the following options for July:

OPTION 1: USE OF STATE-FUNDED INFLUENZA VACCINES IN JULY

Providers can continue to administer influenza vaccines (Fluzone®) received from the Department specifically for the Program. Orders can continue to be placed through [Onelink](#) until all stock is exhausted.

Community pharmacies and corporate vaccination service providers will be able to continue to claim payment for Program vaccines administered in July through the usual process.

OPTION 2: USE OF PRIVATELY PURCHASED INFLUENZA VACCINES IN JULY

Providers can claim reimbursement for privately purchased vaccines that are administered to eligible persons during July.

As part of the reimbursement claim, providers will need to submit evidence (e.g. invoice) detailing the purchase of influenza vaccines, including:

- influenza vaccine brand
- batch number
- unit cost of the vaccine
- number of doses purchased
- number of doses administered in July 2026.

Community pharmacies and corporate vaccination service providers can also claim payment for the administration of these privately purchased influenza vaccines administered in July to eligible persons.

This option does not provide reimbursement and/or payment for the administration of:

- influenza vaccines that have been transferred from another immunisation provider (private or ordered through Onelink)
- any influenza vaccine ordered through Onelink.

[More information](#) about when and how to submit claims under Option 1 and 2 will be provided at a later date.

WA Health Japanese encephalitis virus vaccination program eligibility expanded

Until 31 October 2026, eligibility for the WA Health Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) Vaccination Program has expanded to include:

- all residents in the Pilbara region
- workers for mining companies with sites in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions
- travellers to the Kimberley and Pilbara regions.

Persons who are already eligible to receive a free JEV vaccine include:

- all residents in the Kimberley region
- persons living or residing in specific postcodes in the Pilbara region who spend at least four hours per day outdoors for unavoidable activities
- persons who work directly with mosquitoes in the Kimberley or Pilbara regions or handle live JEV (e.g. laboratory workers and entomologists).

According to WA Health data, as of 19 June 2026, no human cases of JEV infection have been reported in Western Australia. Please continue to prioritise vaccination for persons at residential or occupational risk of exposure to JEV.

All government-funded JEV vaccines are available to order via Onelink. All current stock is due to expire between August and October 2026, so please check your labels and order accordingly.

For further information, see WA Health's [Japanese encephalitis webpage](#).

Reminder on how to submit an Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) - immunisation medical exemption form (IM011)

Eligible health professionals can fill out an IM011 form to record a medical exemption for immunisation.

The IM011 form and any supporting documents must be submitted online using your Provider Digital Access (PRODA) account and the Form upload function in Health Professional Online Services (HPOS).

The WA Department of Health cannot process these forms.

For more information please visit: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/im011>

Free National Immunisation Program (NIP) vaccines for people without a functioning spleen

[Reminder from Spleen Australia](#)

People without a functioning spleen are eligible for the following vaccines under the NIP:

- pneumococcal
- meningococcal (ACWY and B)
- Haemophilus influenzae type b
- influenza.

These vaccines can be ordered via [Onelink](#). While shingles and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccination is recommended for this cohort, they are not currently funded under the NIP for people without a functioning spleen, unless additional eligibility criteria, such as age or higher level immunocompromise, are met.

Latest updates to the Australian Immunisation Handbook (AIH)

The AIH recently updated the [Meningococcal disease](#) chapter to reflect the availability, dosing, safety and effectiveness of MenQuadfi MenACWY vaccine in the 6 weeks to less than 12 months age group.

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

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