



### PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information provided to you today by your doctor or nurse, and the information gained from your answers to the questions below is a consent process that will enable you to make an informed decision regarding vaccination.

Vaccination will protect you and your child from a range of infectious diseases. It is important that you alert your doctor or nurse of any existing or past medical conditions that you or your child have experienced that may affect the decision to proceed with vaccination today

#### Please inform your doctor or nurse if the person to be vaccinated:

- is unwell today
- has a disease which lowers immunity (eg. leukaemia, cancer, HIV/AIDS) or is having treatment which lowers immunity (eg. oral steroid medicines such as cortisone and prednisone, radiotherapy, chemotherapy)
- has had a severe reaction following any vaccine
- has any severe allergies to anything
- has had any vaccine in the past month, e.g. MMR or Varicella vaccine
- has had an injection of immunoglobulin, or received any blood products or a whole blood transfusion within the past year
- is pregnant
- has a past history of Guillain-Barré Syndrome
- was a preterm infant
- has a chronic illness
- has a bleeding disorder.

#### There are only 2 absolute contraindications applicable to all vaccines:

1. anaphylaxis following a previous dose of any vaccine, and
2. anaphylaxis following any component of the relevant vaccine.

#### A different vaccine schedule may be recommended if the person to be vaccinated:

- identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- does not have a functioning spleen
- is planning a pregnancy or anticipating parenthood
- is a parent, grandparent or carer of a newborn
- lives with someone who has a disease which lowers immunity (e.g. leukaemia, cancer, HIV/AIDS), or lives with someone who is having treatment which lowers immunity (e.g. oral steroid medicines such as cortisone and prednisone, radiotherapy, chemotherapy).

**NOTE: Ask your doctor/nurse questions about this information or any other matter relating to vaccination to ensure that you understand the information provided before any vaccines are given to you or your child**

#### Information you should obtain from your Immunisation Service Provide

- What vaccines you or your child will receive today?
- How to manage a reaction following immunisation and the common reactions
- Who to contact in the event of a reaction; and
- The method of reporting an adverse event following immunisation.



### Signs of a sudden severe reaction that usually occurs within the first 10-15 minutes and may require medical intervention include:

- sudden hives or rashes
- swollen lips or eyes
- difficulty with breathing or noisy breathing
- becoming very pale and limp
- losing consciousness

If any of these symptoms occur, either notify the reception staff or return to the treatment area and seek out the nurse or doctor who will assess the reaction and provide treatment accordingly.

**Please remain in the centre for 15 minutes following vaccination to ensure that you or your child has not experienced any severe reaction which in most instances occurs within the first few minutes following immunisation.**

### Monitoring your health, or the health of your child following vaccination

- All the common reactions or side effects are usually mild and short in duration and treatment is not usually required.
- The nurse or doctor will provide you with a vaccination fact sheet listing expected reactions.
- If the reactions are severe or persistent, or if you are worried about yourself or your child's condition following vaccination you can choose one of the following options:
  - contact your doctor or the practice nurse
  - contact the Central Immunisation Clinic 08 9321 1312 (8.30-4.30pm) or after hours,
  - contact healthdirect **1800 022 222; (24 hours) or**
  - go to your local hospital.

Information about the vaccine administered today will be documented in your immunisation card and should be kept for future reference. You will also be provided with an information sheet which will assist you to manage any common side effects you or your child experiences from your vaccine today.

### Online reporting of an adverse event following immunisation

The WA Department of Health has just released a new reporting system for members of the public, or the doctor or nurse to report any reactions following vaccination.

There are several ways to report:

- On line: [www.wavss.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.wavss.health.wa.gov.au) (24 hours a day, 7 days per week)
- By telephone: **(08) 9321 1312** (between 8.30am and 4.30pm)
- Complete a WAVVS reporting form and return by:
- Fax: **(08) 9426 9408** (24 hours a day, 7 days per week)
- Email: [wavss@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:wavss@health.wa.gov.au)
- Post: Central Immunisation Clinic, PO Box 8172, Perth Business Centre WA 6849

**Communicable Disease Control Directorate  
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**