

# Clinical Competency Assessment

## Clinical Competency Assessment Guide

It is strongly recommended that all those new to immunisation or individuals who need to further develop their clinical competencies, or anyone who needs to feel assured they are a safe immunisation provider, should complete a clinical competency assessment.

Supervised clinical practice helps to ensure the integration of theoretical knowledge with clinical practice.

This clinical competency assessment guide is to assist in identifying levels of competency based on the specific responsibilities and performance requirements for health professionals in their specific clinical setting.

A minimum of two immunisation encounters are recommended.

If intending to administer immunisations to children, one encounter should be a child aged  $\leq 12$  months of age.

Please tick the course you have completed:

Understanding Vaccines and the National Immunisation Program (NIP)	
Understanding Vaccines for Midwives: Vaccination requirements during pregnancy and early childhood	
Understanding Vaccines and Adult Vaccination requirements for workplace programs	
COVID-19 Immunisation Education Program	
Other:	



Competencies (minimum 2 assessments per competency)	Assessor to tick if successfully demonstrated		N/A
	1	2	
<p><b>Reviews client history:</b></p> <p>Welcomes client/parent and establishes good relationship</p> <p>Checks client records and is able to access the Australian Immunisation Register to ascertain previous immunisation history</p> <p>Identifies which specific vaccines are recommended at the appropriate schedule point</p> <p>Discusses and confirms with the client/parent the recommended vaccines</p> <p>Identifies if catch-up vaccines are necessary and plans appropriately</p>			
<p><b>Pre vaccination assessment:</b></p> <p>Accurately screens the client prior to immunising using an appropriate tool/checklist</p> <p>Identifies special risk groups as listed in the online Australian Immunisation Handbook (Handbook) and includes additional vaccines due to identified risk</p> <p>Correctly identifies true contraindications to vaccination and responds appropriately</p>			
<p><b>Consent</b></p> <p>Understands the components required with valid consent <b>OR</b>, Identifies the individual is legally able to provide valid consent.</p>			

Competencies (minimum 2 assessments per competency)	Assessor to tick if successfully demonstrated		N/A
	1	2	
<p>Obtains valid consent as described in the Handbook</p> <p>Uses appropriate resources to assist with the consent process</p> <p>Is able to clearly and confidently discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination</p> <p>Can effectively address any concerns client/parent may have</p> <p>Correctly documents valid consent</p>			
<p><b>Anaphylaxis Management:</b></p> <p>Has a valid current basic life support certificate</p> <p>Is aware of the whereabouts of an anaphylaxis response kit</p> <p>Demonstrates knowledge of the symptoms and signs of anaphylaxis</p> <p>Can accurately distinguish between anaphylaxis, convulsions and vasovagal episodes (fainting)</p> <p><i>NIP course only:</i> Is able to differentiate between a Hypotonic -Hyporesponsive Episode (HHE) and anaphylaxis</p> <p>Demonstrates knowledge in the management of anaphylaxis</p>			

Competencies (minimum 2 assessments per competency)	Assessor to tick if successfully demonstrated		N/A
	1	2	
<p><b>Preparing to vaccinate</b></p> <p>Demonstrates an understanding of the rationale for maintaining the vaccine cold chain</p> <p>Demonstrates knowledge of correct vaccine storage such as protection of vaccine from light in accordance with the national vaccine storage guidelines</p> <p>Can identify when a breach in the cold chain has occurred and is aware of the appropriate actions</p> <p>Ensures that the correct vaccine/s are selected for administration</p> <p>Identifies that the vaccines selected are suitable for use; checks expiry date and inspects vaccine</p> <p>Reconstitutes vaccines appropriately when required</p>			
<p><b>Positioning for vaccination</b></p> <p>Identifies the correct injection site/s for specific age groups</p> <p>Correctly positions client prior to vaccinating to allow good access to injection site</p> <p>Can effectively communicate with the parent on appropriate holding of child during procedure</p> <p>Discusses distraction techniques and parental comforting measures</p>			

Competencies (minimum 2 assessments per competency)	Assessor to tick if successfully demonstrated		N/A
	1	2	
<p><b>Vaccination technique:</b></p> <p>Selects correct route of administration for each vaccine</p> <p>Identifies the appropriate needle size and length as required for specific individuals and route of administration</p> <p>Uses the correct administration technique for each vaccine</p> <p>Demonstrate awareness of best practice regarding multiple injections</p> <p>Disposes of all equipment appropriately</p>			
<p><b>Post vaccination care</b></p> <p>Provides clients with adequate information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• common reactions following specific vaccines and their management</li> <li>• what to do if they are concerned about a reaction following vaccination</li> <li>• how to report an adverse reaction</li> <li>• the requirement to remain in the area for at least 15 minutes</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Documentation</b></p> <p>Documents all necessary details in the appropriate records and files</p>			

<b>Competencies</b> (minimum 2 assessments per competency)	<b>Assessor to tick if successfully demonstrated</b>		
	1	2	N/A
Submits all required details to the Australian Immunisation Register			

Assessor must be an appropriately qualified experienced immunisation provider who practices in accordance with the recommendations in the Handbook.

Assessor is to complete details below when all competencies have been successfully demonstrated.

	<b>Assessor 1</b>	<b>Assessor 2 (if applicable)</b>
<b>Print full name</b>	_____	_____
<b>Signature</b>	_____	_____
<b>Qualifications</b>	_____	_____
<b>Date of assessment</b>	_____	_____
<b>Assessment venue</b>	_____	_____

**Acknowledgements:**

- Public Health Agency of Canada, Immunization Competencies for Health Professionals. Centre for Immunization and Respiratory Infectious Diseases. Nov 2008
- Immunisation Knowledge and Skills Competence Assessment Tool, Royal College of Nursing Public Health England. May 2018
- Oxford Vaccine Group, University of Oxford based on the Health Protection Agency Core Curriculum for Immunisation (June 2005)