

2025 Flu Vaccination 'what you need to know'

Please refer to the following information which will assist immunisation providers prepare for and implement the 2025 Funded Influenza Immunisation Program.

Vaccines

The annual composition of influenza vaccines for the Southern Hemisphere is reviewed in September each year by the World Health Organization (WHO), and subsequently by the Australian Influenza Vaccine Committee (AIVC). [The ATAGI statement on the transition from quadrivalent to trivalent seasonal influenza vaccines in Australia](#) provides information on the transition to trivalent influenza vaccines to align with the AIVC recommendations.

All funded influenza vaccines in 2025 are quadrivalent vaccines (QIV) and contain virus strains for two influenza A subtypes and two influenza B lineages.

The influenza vaccines in 2025 contain the following strains:

- > Egg-based quadrivalent influenza vaccines:
 - an A/Victoria/4897/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
 - an A/Croatia/10136RV/2023 (H3N2)-like virus; and
 - a B/Austria/1359417/2021 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus;
 - a B/Phuket/3073/2013 (B/Yamagata lineage)-like virus.
- > Cell or recombinant-based quadrivalent influenza vaccines:
 - an A/Wisconsin/67/2022 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
 - an A/District of Columbia/27/2023 (H3N2)-like virus; and
 - a B/Austria/1359417/2021 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus;
 - a B/Phuket/3073/2013 (B/Yamagata lineage)-like virus

2025 Funded Influenza Vaccines					
All funded influenza vaccines in 2025 are quadrivalent.					
Age Group	FluQuadri® 0.5ml (IM)	Vaxigrip Tetra® 0.5ml (IM)	Flucelvax® Quad 0.5ml (IM)	Fluad® Quad 0.5ml (IM)	Comments
6 months to less than 5 years	✓	✓	✗	✗	Children aged 6 months to less than 9 years receiving influenza vaccine for the first time require two doses at least four weeks apart.
5 years to less than 65 years	✗	✓	✓	✗	
65 years and older	✗	✗	✗	✓	

Providers must be aware of the age cohorts and eligibility criteria for all funded influenza vaccines and ensure they administer the correct age-appropriate vaccine.

Timing of vaccination

Influenza vaccination is recommended to commence before the onset of the influenza season. The aim is to achieve an optimum level of protection during the peak influenza season, typically June to September for most parts of Australia. Refer to the [ATAGI statement on the administration of seasonal influenza vaccines in 2025](#).

Influenza case notifications occur throughout the year in South Australia and vaccination should continue to be offered to eligible individuals as long as the vaccine is available.

Revaccination later in the same season is not routinely recommended for individuals who have already received a 2025 influenza vaccine.

Influenza and other routine vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, can be administered on the same day.

For more information see the [Australian Immunisation Handbook – Influenza chapter](#).

Eligible cohorts for the National Immunisation Program (NIP)

Annual influenza vaccination is recommended for anyone 6 months of age and older to reduce their chances of becoming ill with influenza.

Funded influenza vaccines should be given only to eligible cohorts. For more information visit sahealth.sa.gov.au/flu.

Pregnant women

Pregnant women are eligible to receive a funded influenza vaccine anytime during the pregnancy.

Recommendations for vaccination:

- > If a person has received the 2024 influenza vaccine in their current pregnancy it is recommended to administer a 2025 influenza vaccine.
- > If a person has received a 2025 influenza vaccine before becoming pregnant, it is recommended to administer another 2025 influenza vaccine during pregnancy to protect the unborn child.

Ensure that the vaccine is recorded on the woman's antenatal record as well as the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) under the antenatal category.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from 6 months of age are eligible.

Children 6 months to less than 9 years of age should have two doses at least four weeks apart in the first year they receive influenza vaccine.

Only one annual dose is required thereafter for those who have received at least one influenza vaccine in a previous influenza season.

Children 6 months to less than 5 years

All children from 6 months to less than 5 years of age are eligible.

Children aged 6 months to less than 9 years should have two doses at least four weeks apart in the first year they receive influenza vaccine.

Only one annual dose is required thereafter for those who have received at least one influenza vaccine in a previous influenza season.

People aged 65 years and older

All people aged 65 years and older are eligible.

The Flud[®]Quad quadrivalent adjuvanted vaccine is funded and recommended for those aged 65 years and older. This vaccine has been specifically designed to boost the immune response and provide better protection for this age group.

Medical at risk patients

Individuals from 6 months of age with medical risk factors associated with an increased risk of influenza complications as listed in the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) are eligible.

To ensure that all people with eligible medical at risk factors are offered the funded influenza vaccine, refer to the list of medical at risk factors on the [Annual Funded Influenza Program: 2025 South Australia Schedule](#).

Family members and contacts of those with medical at risk factors are recommended to have the influenza vaccine but are not funded to do so.

Further information is available at the [National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance – Influenza](#).

People experiencing homelessness

State funded influenza vaccines are available to people who are not in the eligible cohorts listed above and are experiencing homelessness.

The definition of homelessness for this program includes adults and children living in:

- > improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping rough
- > supported accommodation for the homeless
- > boarding houses or other temporary lodging
- > severely crowded dwellings.

People experiencing homelessness who are eligible for funded influenza vaccine under the nationally funded influenza program should receive an age appropriate nationally funded influenza vaccine.

Influenza vaccines and egg allergic individuals

Egg allergy, even anaphylaxis, is not a contraindication to influenza vaccine. Egg allergic individuals can receive a full dose of age-appropriate influenza vaccine.

Vaccination does not need to occur in a hospital setting.

Before vaccinating egg allergic individuals, providers should refer to information and recommendations regarding influenza vaccination for egg allergic individuals:

- > Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care - Immunisation: health.gov.au/topics/immunisation/vaccines/influenza-flu-vaccine
- > ASCIA Guidelines - Vaccination of the egg-allergic individual: allergy.org.au/hp/papers/vaccination-of-the-egg-allergic-individual

Reporting to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)

The AIR is a whole-of-life register and accepts reports of vaccinations administered to people of all ages. It is mandatory for providers to report all administered influenza vaccines to the AIR under the appropriate category.

All funded influenza vaccines should be reported under the 'NIP' category, or 'State program' for homeless people, and all vaccines given to a pregnant person should be reported under the antenatal category.

Timely and accurate recording of all administered vaccines to the AIR enables information to be obtained on vaccine uptake and helps prevent program errors.

Influenza vaccines should be recorded as dose 1 each year due to the different vaccine being administered.

Vaccine availability, ordering and storage

Distribution of funded influenza vaccine will commence when stocks are available, using the existing South Australian vaccine ordering systems. It is anticipated the ordering and delivery schedule for 2025 will be as follows:

- > Fludax® Quad (65 yrs & older) can be ordered from Thursday 13 March, deliveries commencing **Monday 17 March**.
- > All other Influenza vaccine categories will be available to order from Thursday 27 March, deliveries commencing **Monday 31 March**.
- > The weekly ordering schedule will be from Monday 24 March and is available for 4 weeks.
- > There will be no urgent orders processed during weeks 1 to 6 (17 March to 25 April).

From mid-March 2025, refer to the ordering system delivery schedule tab for updated order cut-off times and delivery dates.

Vaccines for people who are experiencing homelessness who are not eligible under the nationally funded influenza program should be ordered in the 'State' column.

Providers are strongly encouraged to check the [Vaccine Distribution Centre \(VDC\) noticeboard](https://vdc.sa.gov.au) daily at vdc.sa.gov.au for updated information regarding influenza vaccine supply and ordering.

Providers are recommended to manage their vaccine ordering and patient bookings with careful regard to vaccine availability.

- > Proactively manage patient enquiries and communications regarding the confirmed time of influenza vaccine availability.
- > Plan clinic dates and bookings once vaccine delivery dates are confirmed:
 - Routine orders placed by the usual cut off time for your area will be delivered on your scheduled routine delivery date.
 - Urgent orders when available will be dispatched on the first available date after the order is received. Urgent orders will be accommodated as soon as possible, however, during peak periods urgent orders may take up to several days to be dispatched from the warehouse.

- A confirmation email will be sent on the day the order is dispatched from the warehouse.

Consider the following when placing vaccine orders:

- > Only order the number of vaccines required until the next delivery.
- > Consider your vaccine storage space. Order only an amount that can be safely stored in original packaging and be clearly labelled for each age cohort without overcrowding the fridge. You may need an additional purpose-built vaccine fridge for additional storage space. If you are not able to safely store the amount of vaccine required for a two week period, you will need to contact VDC.
- > Consider your patient age cohorts and eligibility. For example, how many active patients does your practice have in each of the eligible funded age groups and categories?
- > Calculate how many vaccinations your service can provide each day. Consider how you will plan and manage your bookings and how you will structure any influenza specific clinics.
- > Clearly label vaccine storage baskets with recommended age groups to avoid administration errors and store separate to private influenza vaccines in the fridge.
- > Keep in mind the number of influenza vaccines you administered in 2024, and the amount of 2024 stock discarded at the end of the season.

Resources

Resources to promote influenza vaccination are available to order through poscat.com.au or can be downloaded from the '[Stop the flu before it stops you](#)' resource page.

For information on funded influenza programs, including the NIP and state funded program, visit the [Influenza Immunisation Program 2025](#) page on the SA Health website.

For more information

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March 2025

