

Year 7 School Immunisation Information

Human papillomavirus (HPV)

- very common virus
- spread by intimate or sexual contact
- up to 90% of the general population will be infected with at least one genital HPV type at some time in their lives
- most people do not experience symptoms and do not know if they have the infection or have spread it to someone else
- causes 90% of genital warts
- up to 10% of infections remain persistent, and can lead to HPV related cancers

Complications include:

- Up to 90% of genital cancers (penis, anus, vulva, vagina and cervix)
- Up to 60% of cancers of the mouth and throat.

HPV vaccine

- recommended as a single dose for all year 7 students
- if your child is immunocompromised, speak to your doctor or immunisation provider as 3 doses may be required
- protects against nine HPV types commonly related to genital cancers, throat and mouth cancers and genital warts
- provides a high level of protection if given to students before exposure to the HPV virus
- beneficial even if there has been exposure to the virus as it is unlikely that infection with all HPV types covered by the vaccine has occurred
- does not replace regular cervical screening for females aged 25-74 years as the vaccine protects against most, but not all types of HPV that cause cervical cancer.

Common side effects of HPV vaccine

- pain, swelling and redness at the injection site
- fever
- headache
- nausea
- muscle aches
- dizziness
- tiredness

Diphtheria

- serious infection of the throat and nose caused by a toxin produced by the bacterium *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*
- spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes or by direct contact with skin sores or objects/articles contaminated by an infected person
- 1 in 6 people infected will die

Complications include:

- severe breathing difficulties
- nerve paralysis or weakness
- heart failure
- death

Tetanus

- serious, often fatal, disease caused by a toxin produced by bacteria found in soil, dust and manure
- contracted through a puncture wound, cut or burn which becomes contaminated by the bacteria
- not directly transmitted from person to person
- most common in persons never vaccinated or those vaccinated more than 10 years ago
- 2 in 100 people infected will die

Complications include:

- serious heart problems
- pneumonia
- blood clot in the lungs
- death

Whooping cough (pertussis)

- highly infectious respiratory infection
- spread when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes
- can spread to up to 100% of household contacts and up to 80% of school contacts infected if they are not vaccinated or were vaccinated many years ago

Complications include:

- rib fractures
- pneumonia
- persistent cough lasting up to 3 months
- brain damage from lack of oxygen

Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine (dTpa)

- recommended as a single dose for all Year 7 students as an **additional** booster to doses already received in childhood
- recommended for students who have previously received the ADT Booster (Adsorbed Diphtheria and Tetanus) vaccine for a tetanus prone wound as it will offer protection against whooping cough

Common side effects of dTpa vaccines

- pain, redness and swelling at the injection site
- fever
- headache
- nausea, generally feeling unwell
- muscle aches and joint pain
- tiredness



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Studies show that most reactions are mild. Severe reactions to vaccines are very rare. If you need further information on the safety of vaccines, please contact your School Immunisation Provider or visit SA Health: sahealth.sa.gov.au/SIP