

Top Ten Tips for Improving Immunisation Coverage

1. Check Immunisation status of all new children on presentation to practice.
 - Take a copy of their personal held record book
 - Record details in Clinical Notes
 - If the child is of ATSI decent, record in clinical notes
2. Promote opportunistic immunisation. When a child presents to your practice always ask yourself, "What age is this child and could they be due for an immunisation?" If the answer is yes, remind the Doctor or Nurse.
3. Everyone working within a practice can contribute to improving immunisation rates. Make sure you understand your role.
4. Report immunisation encounters to ACIR as soon as possible and ensure accurate data entry. Daily reporting to the ACIR is best practice.
5. Report all immunisation related information to the ACIR e.g. Immunisations administered by another provider, Conscientious Objectors and Medical Contraindications.
6. Check your Immunisation payment statements each month. Each GP may receive a separate statement. Ensure every encounter is accounted for.
7. Check your GPII Feedback Statement every quarter. Take note of your practice' coverage rate (%). How does it compare with previous quarters? Is it over 90%?
8. Ensure you receive your GPII020A practice report every quarter. Review and action this report promptly.
 - Check the report against your practice records. If you find further immunisation history, report it to the ACIR.
 - If after checking your practice records, the child appears to be genuinely overdue, make contact with the parents by letter or telephone.
9. Be proactive and consider recalling 4 yr old children when they are due for their immunisations. There are a number of useful resources that are available for FREE at <http://www.dohpackcentre.com.au/DOH/> or call HealthInfo on 1300 135 030
10. Ask for help!