

## IMPORTANT FACTS

- ✓ An up to date ACIR Immunisation History Statement or Immunisation History Form (for children on a catch-up schedule) are needed for child care enrolment
- ✓ A Medicare Medical Contraindication Form or Conscientious Objection Form from a doctor can also be provided as appropriate
- ✓ Vaccinations are most effective if given on time
- ✓ Delaying vaccinations places children at risk of catching a disease and becoming very sick
- ✓ Children with a minor illness such as a runny nose or slight cold can be safely vaccinated
- ✓ Vaccinating many people in a community also protects those who are unvaccinated and helps control serious vaccine preventable diseases
- ✓ Download the free phone app *Save the Date to Vaccinate* for a personalised vaccination schedule for each child with reminders to ensure children are vaccinated on time. **To download the app, visit the Save the Date to Vaccinate website ([www.immunisation.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.immunisation.health.nsw.gov.au)) and follow the links to iTunes (for iPhone) or Google Play (for Android).**

## MORE INFORMATION

### ACIR website

[www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/medicare/australian-childhood-immunisation-register](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/medicare/australian-childhood-immunisation-register)

### NSW Health website

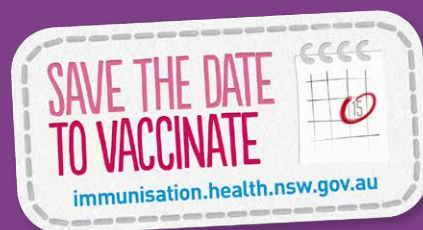
[www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation)

### NSW Health 'Save the Date to Vaccinate' Campaign website

[www.immunisation.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.immunisation.health.nsw.gov.au)

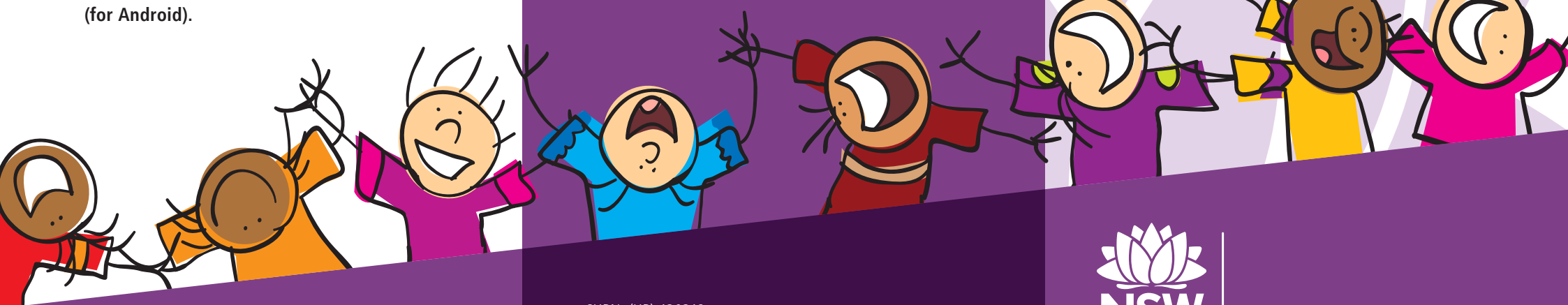
### Australian Government Department of Health & Ageing Immunise Australia Program

[www.immunise.health.gov.au](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au)



# Child Care Entry & Immunisation

## Parent Information



## PROTECTION BEFORE CHILD CARE

It is important that children are fully vaccinated before they start child care to help protect them. Late vaccination leaves children at risk of contracting serious diseases.

## CHILD CARE ENROLMENT & LEGISLATION REQUIREMENTS

Under the NSW Public Health Act 2010, parents must provide an Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) Immunisation History Statement (that shows a child is up to date), or an Immunisation History Form IMMU13 (that shows a child is on a catch-up schedule) or an immunisation exemption form. This information is used to identify and exclude children from child care if there is an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease.

**Parents of children who do not have the appropriate documentation will not be able to enrol their child in child care.**

## IMMUNISATION EXEMPTION FORMS

Children who are unvaccinated for medical reasons or whose parents have a conscientious objection to vaccination can be enrolled in child care provided that one of the following forms, completed by a doctor or immunisation nurse, is submitted upon enrolment:

- Immunisation Exemption **Medical Contraindication Form** (IMMU11), or;
- Immunisation Exemption **Conscientious Objection Form** (IMMU12).

## ACIR IMMUNISATION HISTORY STATEMENT

Parents will receive an Immunisation History Statement in the mail after their child has completed their 18 month and 3½-4 year old vaccinations. Parents can obtain an Immunisation History Statement at any time:

- by calling the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register on **1800 653 809**
- through Medicare Online Services at [www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/online](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/online)
- by requesting a statement by emailing [acir@medicareaustralia.gov.au](mailto:acir@medicareaustralia.gov.au)
- by visiting the local Department of Human Services Service Centre, Medicare office or Centrelink office

## 'UP TO DATE' CHILDREN

Children enrolling in child care may be too young to have received all of their childhood vaccinations. ACIR Immunisation History Statements for children who are up to date will have the words "up to date" recorded on the top left hand side of the statement. The next vaccinations and their due date will be recorded in the bottom section of the statement.

For older children who are fully immunised, the purple section at the bottom of the Immunisation History Statement has the words "This child has received all vaccines required by 5 years of age".

## CHILDREN VACCINATED OVERSEAS

Overseas immunisation schedules may differ from the Australian schedule and need to be checked by a doctor/nurse who will transfer the information to the ACIR. An ACIR Immunisation History Statement will then be issued to parents by the ACIR.

## INACCURATE IMMUNISATION HISTORY STATEMENT

If vaccines are missing from a statement, parents should contact the doctor/nurse who administered the vaccinations to check if the records were sent to the ACIR. Once the updated information is received by the ACIR from the doctor/nurse, an Immunisation History Statement can be re-issued by the ACIR to parents.

## IMMUNISATION HISTORY STATEMENT – SHOWS CHILD IS NOT UP TO DATE

Children who are behind with their immunisations can enrol in child care once they start on a catch-up plan. The doctor/nurse needs to fill out an Immunisation History Form, send it to ACIR and give a copy to the parent.

## VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASE OUTBREAK

Unimmunised children may need to stay at home during a disease outbreak. This is to protect the child and to also stop the spread of disease in the community.

## UPDATED IMMUNISATION HISTORY STATEMENT

After each vaccination, parents should provide their child's updated Immunisation History Statement to their child care director to include on their Immunisation Register. Parents are able to print a statement directly from the Medicare online services website.

## FAMILY TAX BENEFIT PART A

To receive the Family Tax Benefit Part A supplement children must be recorded as fully immunised by the ACIR during the years that the child turns 1, 2, and 5 years of age. Parents may still be eligible if they submit an Immunisation Exemption Form.

