

## Standards for Childhood Immunisation

The following is a summary of the standards for childhood vaccination which were developed by the National Immunisation Committee (NIC) in consultation with the National Immunisation Education subcommittee which consists of representatives from professional organisations. These are intended as a guide and can provide the basis for quality assurance at all levels in the health system. They have been endorsed by the Australian Medical Association, The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the Australian College of Paediatrics and have been welcomed by a variety of other professional bodies.

- ✚ Standard 1 - Vaccination services are readily available.
- ✚ Standard 2 - There are no barriers or prerequisites to vaccination services.
- ✚ Standard 3 - NHMRC recommended childhood vaccines are offered free, without cost to parent or guardian.
- ✚ Standard 4 - Vaccination providers utilise all clinical encounters to assess vaccination status and, when indicated, vaccinate children.
- ✚ Standard 5 - Providers educate parents and guardians about vaccination.
- ✚ Standard 6 - Providers question parents or guardians about contraindications and, before vaccinating a child, inform them in specific terms about the benefits and risks of the vaccines their child is about to see.
- ✚ Standard 7 - Providers withhold vaccination only for true contraindications.
- ✚ Standard 8 - Providers offer and administer, where possible, all vaccines for which a child is due at the one visit.
- ✚ Standard 9 - Providers use accurate and complete recording procedures.
- ✚ Standard 10 - Providers report adverse events following immunisation promptly, accurately and completely.
- ✚ Standard 11 - Providers adhere to appropriate procedures for vaccine cold-chain management.
- ✚ Standard 12 – Vaccination providers maintain current and easily retrievable vaccination guidelines at all locations where the vaccines are administered.