VACCINATION IS IMPORTANT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

ISLHD Immunisation Newsletter - August

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Data Logger - Tips & Steps

Vaccine management is the responsibility of ALL staff with access to vaccines.

Things that need to happen weekly:

- Download data logger
- Practice manager or person in-charge to review data
- Save downloaded data to computer
- Check that temperatures have remained between the +2°C to + 8°C range
- Relaunch data logger
- Ensure the logger is set to record at 5 minute intervals

See link below

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Documents/cold-chain-toolkit.pdf

Covid 19 Testing

Any health care, aged care, disability support workers or residents or others who live or work in a sensitive setting, should be noted on the laboratory request form so their test can be prioritised. Additional information about prioritisation for public health purposes is available here: https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/communities-of-practice/Pages/testing-prioritisation.aspx

Adverse Events Following Immunisation

What is an AEFI?

Adverse events following immunisation (AEFIs) are defined in The Australian Immunisation Handbook as "any untoward medical occurrence that follows immunisation, whether expected or unexpected, and whether triggered by the vaccine or only coincidentally occurring after receipt of a vaccine.

All health professionals are expected to report a suspected AEFI, by downloading the National Adverse Events Following Immunisation (AEFI) Reporting Form and contacting your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055.

Once we receive your report we;

- Notify NSW Ministry of Health and the Therapeutic Goods Administration via the NSW Notifiable Conditions Information management System
- Contact yourself, the patient and anyone else relevant to the report

NSW IMMUNISATION COVERAGE

94.37%
Immunisation coverage for all 1 year olds

96.86%
Immunisation coverage for Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander 5 year olds

94.74%
Immunisation coverage for for all 5yr olds

Source: Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) annualised quarterly report, December 2019
View more on immunisation coverage in Australia

Contact your Public Health Unit for immunisation enquiries:

Phone: 1300 066 055

Fax: 4221 6759

Email: islhd-phu-immunisation@health.nsw.gov.au

Avoiding shoulder injury related to vaccine administration

Shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (SIRVA) is a rare complication of incorrect vaccine administration, when the vaccine is given too high into the shoulder joint. This can cause shoulder pain and restricted range of movement. Diagnoses include bursitis, tendinitis and rotator cuff tears. Bursitis is the most commonly reported diagnosis on ultrasound. Symptoms often begin at the time of injection and can last from weeks to years.

Correct injection technique and positioning will avoid SIRVA.

1 Choose the correct size needle

Use an appropriate needle length to improve vaccine delivery and reduce pain.

Age or size of person	Needle type
Child or adult – note that the deltoid muscle is not recommended for vaccination of infants less than 12 months of age	22–25 gauge, 25 mm long
Very large or obese person	22–25 gauge, 38 mm long

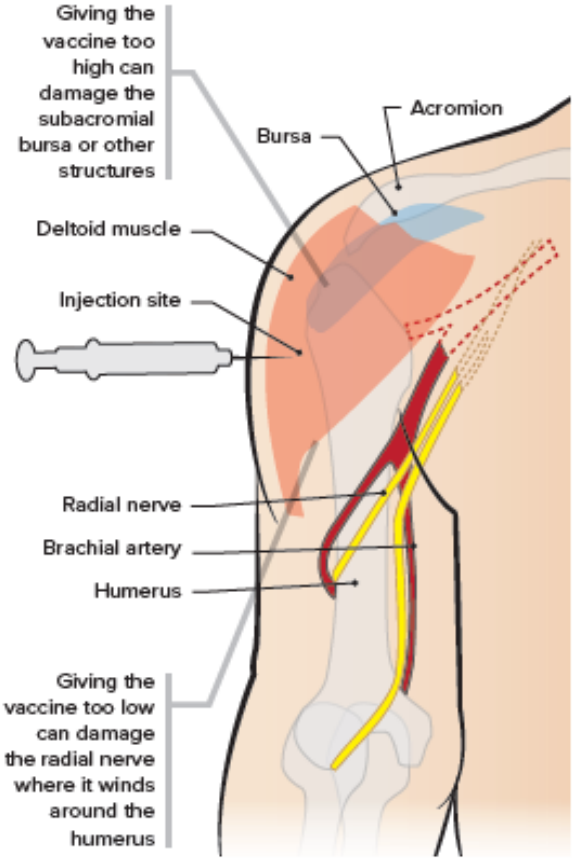
2 Expose the entire upper arm

Injection too high ✗

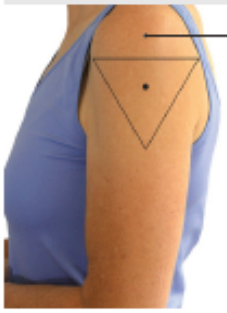
Injection too low ✗

Correct site for injection ✓

3 Find the correct injection site

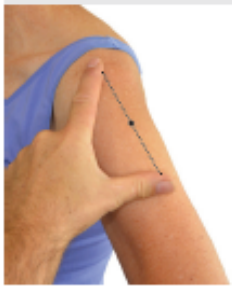


Triangle method



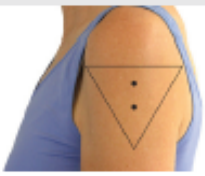
- Measure 2 finger widths down from the acromion process (the knobbly top of the arm).
- Imagine an inverted triangle starting from this point (the width of the arm).
- The injection site is the centre of the triangle.

Fingertips method



- Place your index finger on the acromion process (the knobbly top of the arm).
- Place your thumb at the bottom of the deltoid muscle (about halfway along the upper arm).
- The injection site is midway between these points.

Giving 2 vaccines into the deltoid muscle



- Leave 2.5 cm between injection sites.

4 Relax the muscle

Asking the patient to place their hand on their hip can help to relax the deltoid muscle.

5 Insert the needle at 90° to the skin, to the needle hub

6 Inject the vaccine

! Reporting SIRVA

If a vaccinee reports symptoms suggestive of SIRVA, advise them to see their general practitioner to discuss further assessment, investigation and management, as required.

Report all cases of SIRVA to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and the state or territory health department:

- TGA: https://aems.tga.gov.au

- ACT – ACT Health Department: 02 6205 2300
- NSW: 1300 066 055 (to connect to your local public health unit)
- NT – NT Department of Health: 08 8922 8044
- Qld – Queensland Health: 07 3328 9888; or complete an AEFI initial report form on the Queensland Health website
- SA – SA Health: 1300 232 272
- Tas – report direct to the TGA: 1800 020 653
- Vic – SAEFVIC: 03 9345 4143; or the AEFI-CAN website
- WA – WAVSSS: 08 6456 0208; or the AEFI-CAN website