



Summary of ATAGI dosage recommendations for pandemic H1N1 2009 (Panvax®) and 2010 seasonal influenza vaccination for children aged ≥6 months to <10 years

Updated advice – effective from 23 March 2010

Detailed ATAGI advice 'Use of pandemic and seasonal influenza vaccines in children <10 years of age' is at www.healthemergency.gov.au

See footnotes below for rationale for number of doses and for vaccine eligibility and dosage information.

≥6 months to <10 years of age	Seasonal influenza vaccine doses given in previous years*	Panvax® doses given previously	Seasonal influenza vaccine 2010*	Panvax®
			Number of doses	Number of doses
Child who will receive seasonal influenza vaccine in 2010†	≥2 valid doses	0 doses	1 dose	Not required#
	≥2 valid doses	1 or 2 doses	1 dose (≥28 days after 1 dose of Panvax® or anytime after 2 doses of Panvax®)	Not required
	0 or 1 dose	0, 1 or 2 doses	2 doses , separated by ≥28 days (first dose ≥28 days after 1 dose of Panvax® and anytime after 2 doses of Panvax®)	Not required
Child not planning to receive seasonal influenza vaccine in 2010	0, 1 or 2 doses	0 doses	Not applicable	2 doses , separated by ≥28 days
		1 dose	Not applicable	1 dose (≥28 days after 1st dose of Panvax®)
		2 doses	Not applicable	Not required

Please turn over for reference to footnotes



Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing

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- * Two doses of the seasonal influenza vaccine at least 28 days (1 month) apart are recommended for children aged < 10 years who receive influenza vaccine for the first time. If a child ≥ 6 months to < 10 years of age receiving the seasonal influenza vaccine for the first time does not receive the second dose in the same year, two doses are needed the following year.

The 2010 seasonal influenza vaccine contains three strains: the influenza A pandemic (H1N1) strain; an influenza A (H3N2) strain; and an influenza B strain.

Irrespective of the number of doses of pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine received, two doses of the seasonal influenza vaccine are required to achieve an adequate immune response to the influenza A (H3N2) strain and the influenza B component of the seasonal trivalent influenza vaccine unless ≥ 2 valid doses of seasonal vaccine have been received in previous years. Note: doses are considered to be “valid” if they are separated by ≥ 28 days.

- † It is recommended that children with medical risk factors receive the seasonal trivalent influenza vaccine and this is provided free under the National Immunisation Program (see ‘Eligibility for free vaccines’ below). Any child without medical risk factors who wishes to be protected against the three influenza strains in the seasonal vaccine can receive it through private purchase.
- # For most children, no additional doses of pandemic H1N1-containing vaccine are required; this is consistent with the current advice on the use of seasonal influenza vaccine for children aged ≥ 6 months to < 10 years as set out in *The Australian Immunisation Handbook* (9th edition). However, for children aged ≥ 6 months to < 10 years who are immunocompromised (due to disease or medical treatment), a second dose of H1N1-containing vaccine (Panvax[®]) may be advisable as it is likely to provide an enhanced immune response in this vulnerable population. This dose can be given ≥ 28 days after the dose of the 2010 seasonal influenza vaccine and is only advised if no previous Panvax[®] has been given.

Dosage and presentation: The dosage of both vaccines is **0.25 mL** for ages ≥ 6 months to < 3 years and **0.5 mL** for ages ≥ 3 years to < 10 years. The seasonal influenza vaccine is available in either 0.5 mL or 0.25 mL (Junior) dosages in pre-filled syringes. Pandemic H1N1 2009 influenza vaccine (Panvax[®]) is available in multi-dose vials for use in the appropriate dosage at all ages, and in pre-filled syringes in 0.25 mL dosage for use in children aged ≥ 6 months to < 3 years.

Eligibility for free vaccines: Seasonal influenza vaccine is funded under the National Immunisation Program (NIP) **only** for children at increased risk of complications from influenza infection as set out in *The Australian Immunisation Handbook* (9th edition), pages 190–191. In Western Australia, all children aged < 5 years are eligible for free seasonal influenza vaccine through the Western Australia jurisdictional influenza program. Seasonal influenza vaccine is recommended for all other children aged ≥ 6 months who wish to reduce the risk of contracting seasonal influenza and is available via private prescription. Pandemic H1N1 influenza vaccine is funded for all children and adults through the Australian Government Pandemic H1N1 (2009) Vaccination Program.