Measles vaccination catch-up guide for Australian immunisation providers

Check person’s year of birth

Person born 1966 or later

Check for written Immunisation record(s)*

No record of measles-containing vaccine doses after 12 months of age*

ALTERNATIVE
However, if overseas travel is imminent, give first dose of vaccine at same time as performing serology (to inform need for second vaccine dose)

Offer MMR vaccination**
Give 2 doses of MMR vaccine 24 weeks apart if no contraindications¶

Measles IgG negative or equivocal

Check measles serology (IgG)§

Measles IgG positive

ALTERNATIVE
Consider alternative pathway for select groups e.g. travellers to measles-affected areas, persons born overseas.

Vaccinating without checking serology is acceptable

Person born 1965 or earlier

Assume to be immune from natural infection (unless evidence of no immunity – e.g. negative serology [Measles IgG])

No MMR vaccine required

1 measles-containing vaccine dose after 12 months of age*

Offer MMR vaccination**
Give 2 doses of MMR vaccine 24 weeks apart, first dose given at or after 12 months of age* recorded

2 measles-containing vaccine doses ≥4 weeks apart, first dose given at or after 12 months of age* recorded

Measles IgG negative or equivocal

Check measles serology (IgG)§

ALTERNATIVE
Consider alternative pathway for select groups e.g. travellers to measles-affected areas, persons born overseas.

Vaccinating without checking serology is acceptable

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Consider alternative pathway for select groups e.g. travellers to measles-affected areas, persons born overseas.

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Footnotes:
* Documentation may include personal health record (e.g. baby book), patient handheld record, GP or hospital medical record, or the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) (1996 onwards, also available at myGOV). People born between 1966 and the mid-1990s have a greater likelihood of being under-vaccinated as a 2 dose recommendation was not introduced until November 1992. If past history of measles disease, but no documentation available, proceed as per ‘no record’ option.

¶ Contraindications to MMR vaccination include immunocompromise, pregnancy or previous anaphylaxis to MMR vaccine or one of its components. Refer to the Australian Immunisation Handbook for details.

§ Measles and rubella serology is optional and can be considered, particularly in females of childbearing age, to ensure immunity to rubella.

¶ Contraindications to MMR vaccination include immunocompromise, pregnancy or previous anaphylaxis to MMR vaccine or one of its components. Refer to the Australian Immunisation Handbook for details.

† One vaccine dose may be appropriate in a person with a single previously documented dose or in a person with equivocal serology who is likely to have previously had a dose(s) but has no documentation of same.

** MMR vaccine is available from GPs and in some states directly from pharmacists.

# One vaccine dose may be appropriate in a person with a single previously documented dose or in a person with equivocal serology who is likely to have previously had a dose(s) but has no documentation of same.

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