Vaccinations are one of the easy things you can do to maintain your health so make this a priority today!

**Flu Vaccinations**

**Flu vaccines**

Flu vaccines are now available at UNSW Health Service. The flu vaccine is provided free to all staff and students and is strongly recommended. For more information about the Flu Vaccine refer to [NSW Health](#) or [Department of Health](#).

**Where can I get the flu vaccination?**

To get the flu vaccine you are required to attend a health service or a pharmacy. UNSW health service has adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic and has put procedures in place to ensure your safety and the safety of our staff. You can also access flu vaccinations via your local pharmacy or GP.

**How do I book my flu vaccine at UNSW Health service?**

**Prior to Easter:**

If you require an appointment prior to Easter, please call the health service on 9385 5425 and staff will arrange an appropriate time to minimise patient congestion. Please note that we will have limited availability before 14th April as it is a short week.

Read through and sign the [consent form](#) and bring it with you to your flu consultation.

If you are a new client complete the [registration form](#) and email the form to [unihealth@unsw.edu.au](mailto:unihealth@unsw.edu.au)

Only those with appointments will be able to attend the Health Service to receive a vaccination. Please call if there are any changes to your appointment time or if you have any cold or flu symptoms and we will arrange for a telehealth consult to monitor your health.

**After Easter:**

To make an appointment with our Flu Clinics between 14th - 28th April, you will be required to register online. Follow these steps as directed:

1. [Click here](#) to make an online booking.
2. Login (click on existing patient if you have visited UNSW Health Service before) or Register (select new patient if you have not visited UNSW Health Service before). Log in to proceed with a booking.
3. Proceed to the “practitioner of your choice” third tab down, then select either “FLU CLINIC 1” or “FLU CLINIC 2” TAB. If you cannot find any appointments in clinic 1 then please proceed to clinic 2. - DO NOT CLICK ON THE GENERAL PRACTITIONER TAB.
4. Make an appointment at a time and a date of your choosing.
5. Read through and sign this [consent form](#). Print this and bring it with you to your appointment. This is a compulsory requirement for your vaccination.
6. If you are a new client complete this [registration form](#) and email to [unihealth@unsw.edu.au](mailto:unihealth@unsw.edu.au).
7. To cancel or change appointments please revisit the email confirmation to make the changes.
Should I get the flu vaccine now?

The UNSW Health Service will be offering flu vaccines all year and traditionally we do most vaccinating from mid-April to late May. Whilst there has been advice regarding the need to obtain an early flu please note that average peak cases occur in late August and into September so another vaccine may be required in July. Please postpone your flu vaccination if you have cold and flu symptoms or are unwell. STILL not sure about this?

How will UNSW Health Service maintain physical distancing?

The UNSW Health service is managing appointment times to ensure physical distancing can be maintained at all times by distributing appointment times across the day. Additional waiting areas have also been established outside the health service to ensure people waiting for an appointment can maintain physical distancing. Masks, gloves and hand sanitisers will be available to ensure patient safety at all times. For receiving a flu vaccine, a separate entrance has been arranged during peak times.

Why is the flu Vaccine so important this year?

We are strongly recommending everyone is vaccinated this year. The flu won’t prevent you from getting COVID-19 but it will reduce the number of people who get the flu and therefore the number of people needing hospital beds as a result of severe flu, limiting the impact on the health system. It is also possible to get the flu and COVID-19 at the same time which will likely cause significantly worse symptoms.

Flu fact: You can’t catch influenza from the flu shot!

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccines

The HPV vaccine protects against certain types of genital human papillomavirus (HPV) that affect both men and women. HPV is a very common sexually transmitted infection which usually causes no symptoms and goes away by itself, but can sometimes cause serious illnesses. Almost all cases of genital warts and cervical cancer are due to HPV.

The vaccine provides protection from HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18 and protection is expected to be long-lasting. The vaccine helps prevent 70% of cervical cancers, most of the genital cancers in men caused by HPV infection and 90% of genital warts in men and women. The vaccine works best if it is given before any sexual contact occurs.

If you need more information, visit hpvvaccine.org.au or phone UNSW Health Service on 9385 5425. You can also call the National Immunisation Hotline on 1800 671 811 or the Cancer Council on 13 11 20.

If you need resources in another language, the National HPV Vaccination Program website has translated fact sheets here.

If your language is not included, call the Telephone Interpretation Service on 13 14 50 and ask to speak to the National Immunisation Hotline on 1800 671 811.

The vaccine is given in three doses, usually across a six-month period. Vaccinations are spaced two months apart for the first and second dose, and 4 months for the second and third dose. If you cannot stay to this schedule, talk to one of our GP’s.

Travel Vaccinations

Our GP’s offer education and advice to minimise health risks while travelling and provide medications and immunisations. Common requirements are prevention of malaria or altitude sickness, treatments for diarrhoea and allergies. We are also an approved yellow fever vaccination clinic and provide you with yellow fever vaccination certification in the form approved by the World Health Organisation (WHO). This is essential for travel to areas such as sub-Saharan Africa and tropical South America. Please make sure you book in for your yellow fever vaccination no less than 10 days before entering a risk area.

Administered by trained registered nurses, our available vaccines include the routine; measles, mumps, rubella, hep-b
and influenza, to the more complicated, such as yellow fever and associated international certifications for travel.

Our team will only recommend immunisation based on the individual's requirement, itinerary of the traveller, their health status, when the benefit of the vaccine outweights the associated risk of complications arising from vaccine side-effects, and when the risk of disease and illness is indicated.

For more information on travel vaccinations check out this link.

Childhood Vaccinations

Why childhood immunisation is important

Immunisation is important because it helps to protect your child from serious infectious diseases, some of which can be life threatening.

Immunisation is also good for you and your child because it stops infectious diseases spreading in the community. Sometimes, immunisation can get rid of these diseases completely, as in the case of smallpox.

This happens through herd immunity. Herd immunity is when enough people in the community are immunised against a disease, and the spread of the bacteria or virus that causes the disease either slows down or stops completely. We need herd immunity to protect vulnerable children who might not be able to get immunised because they’re too young or they have a serious illness – for example, a weakened immune system.

GPs can give other immunisations that aren’t on the NIP schedule, like those needed by children with medical conditions, as well as some travel immunisations.

The Australian Government funds the immunisations on the NIP schedule.

We currently directly bill all children under 16. This will mean, if you hold a current Medicare, Medibank, AHM, Allianz or BUPA card there will be no out of pocket fee

If your child needs extra immunisations that aren’t part of the NIP schedule – for example, the annual influenza vaccine for a healthy child, or travel vaccines we have these vaccines available in our clinic. The costs of vaccines vary depending on the type of vaccine

Your child’s immunisation history and the Australian Immunisation Register

Your child’s immunisation history is recorded on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

Your child’s immunisation history statement is a useful personal record. You can use it as proof that your child is up to date with recommended immunisations. You might need this proof to enrol your child at child care or when entering Primary School

Your child is put onto the AIR automatically once he’s enrolled in Medicare. And you can request your child’s immunisation history statement at any time through your Medicare online account on myGov, by asking your GP, or by calling the AIR on 1800 653 809.

You can also give your GP permission to access your child’s immunisation history on the AIR. This can help with planning what immunisations your child needs and when.

Medical Student Compliance Checks

NSW Health requires that all medical students placed in any of its facilities are fully compliant with its requirements. This applies to students undertaking clinical placements or students who require access to its facilities, which includes all UNSW Medicine teaching hospitals.

UNSW Medicine is required to enter information about all medical students into ClinConnect, a NSW Health database for managing clinical training placements in public hospitals. Information reported to ClinConnect includes student name, student number, student e-mail address, gender and date of birth.
Prior to the first clinical training session in Year 1, students will need to provide certain documentation to NSW Health staff at an on-campus checking session. If not fully compliant with their requirements, students will be given instructions on what to do before commencing clinical training. UNSW Medicine cannot overrule the decision of health staff and clinical training will be delayed until compliance is reached.

Students must note that clinical placements are a substantial and essential element in the UNSW Medicine program. Students who fail to satisfy the requirements of NSW Health at any point during their enrolment in the program may be excluded from undertaking a clinical placement. This will delay progress in the program and may ultimately lead to exclusion from the program.

For more information and to download the appropriate documentation, click here.