

Enquiries to: QHIP
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Dear Doctor / Vaccine Service Provider

Introduction of Prevenar 13[®] in National Immunisation Program (NIP)

From the 1 July 2011 the seven valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, Prevenar[®] will be replaced with the thirteen valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, Prevenar 13[®] in Queensland and all states and territories except for the Northern Territory.

Prevenar 13[®] will replace:

- Prevenar[®] at 2, 4 and 6 months of age for all children
- Prevenar[®] at 12 months of age for children with underlying medical conditions associated with a greater risk or severity of invasive pneumococcal disease; and
- Pneumovax 23[®] at 2 years of age for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in high risk areas including Queensland.

These changes are summarised in the table below:

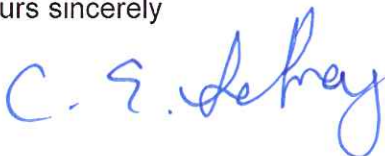
Scheduled vaccination	Current pneumococcal program (to 30 June 2011)	New pneumococcal program (from 1 July 2011)
2 months (can be given from 6 weeks of age)	Prevenar [®]	Prevenar 13[®]
4 months	Prevenar [®]	Prevenar 13[®]
6 months	Prevenar [®]	Prevenar 13[®]
Children with underlying medical conditions at 12 months¹	Prevenar [®]	Prevenar 13[®]
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children at 2 years²	Pneumovax 23 [®]	Prevenar 13[®]

1. Children with underlying medical conditions, as listed on page 246 of the Australian Immunisation Handbook, 9th edition.
2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia.

Towards the end of June 2011 the Queensland Health Immunisation Program will commence delivery of Prevenar 13[®] to all vaccine service providers who are currently using Prevenar[®] as part of the NIP schedule.

A time-limited program providing a supplementary dose of Prevenar 13[®] for children aged between 12 and 35 months who have completed primary vaccination with 3 doses of Prevenar[®] will commence on 1 October 2011. Further information on this supplementary dose will be sent closer to the commencement date.

Yours sincerely



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