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Dear Doctor / Vaccine Service Provider

Transition to Prevenar 13[®] from 1 July 2011 – updated advice

Prevenar[®] will be replaced with Prevenar 13[®] in the infant primary immunisation schedule at 2, 4 and 6 months of age and for children with underlying medical conditions at 12 months of age.

Prevenar 13[®] provides protection against an additional six serotypes which can cause invasive pneumococcal disease that were not previously covered by Prevenar[®], including disease associated with the increasingly predominant serotype 19A.

Queensland Health has previously advised that the booster dose of Pneumovax 23[®] (23vPPV) at 24 months for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island children will be replaced by Prevenar 13[®].

This is **NOT** the case.

The Australian Government has advised that Prevenar 13[®] will **only** be used as a direct replacement for Prevenar[®]. The recommended schedules are below:

How to transition from Prevenar[®] to Prevenar 13[®] from 1 July 2011

Scheduled Age for vaccination	Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3
2 months (can be given from 6 weeks of age)	Give Prevenar 13 [®]	Give Prevenar 13 [®]	Give Prevenar 13 [®]
4 months	Had Prevenar [®]	Give Prevenar 13 [®]	Give Prevenar 13 [®]
6 months	Had Prevenar [®]	Had Prevenar [®]	Give Prevenar 13 [®]

For at risk children	Dose 1, 2 and 3	Dose 4	Dose 5
Children with underlying medical conditions*	Follow the schedule for Dose 1, 2 and 3 as above	Give Prevenar 13 [®] at 12 months	Give Pneumovax 23 [®] at 4 years
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Follow the schedule for Dose 1, 2 and 3 as above	Give Pneumovax 23 [®] at 24 months	Not required

*Defined in *The Australian Immunisation Handbook* (9th edition) page 246

Prevenar 13[®] and other National Immunisation Program (NIP) vaccines

Prevenar 13[®] can be given at the same time as other NIP vaccines.

Prevenar 13[®] and Influenza vaccine

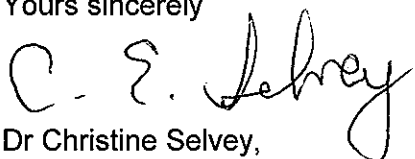
Prevenar 13[®] can be given at the same time as influenza vaccine; however there is a small increased risk of fever/febrile convulsions with the co-administration of trivalent seasonal influenza vaccine and pneumococcal conjugate vaccines, in children 12-35 months of age.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) advises that these vaccines may be given together and that vaccine service providers should discuss this risk with parents prior to administration. If there are strong parental concerns, trivalent seasonal influenza vaccine and Prevenar 13[®] may be administered separately, using an interval of at least three days between each vaccine.

Prevenar 13[®] supplementary catch-up program – children aged between 12 and 35 months

Further information will be provided prior to the commencement of this program on 1st October 2011.

Yours sincerely



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