

IMMUNISATION CERTIFICATION COURSE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

1. How do I go about doing the course?

- Enquiries for the course can be made through your Divisional Immunisation Program Officer (DIPO)
- Once you decide you want to do the course, send your completed registration form and your \$50 cheque made payable to "Department of Health" to your DIPO.
- If you do not have a registered supervisor within your practice, one will be nominated for you.

2. What is the difference between the Immunisation Certification course and the "Theory Only" Immunisation Certification Course?

- To complete the Immunisation Certification Course applicants must be Registered in Division 1 or 2 of the Nurses Board of WA register, and practicing in a clinical area.
- To complete the "Theory Only" Immunisation Certification Course, the applicants must be a health care profession employee and will not be required to complete the clinical assessment.

3. Can EN's do the course?

- YES
- Applicants must be Registered in Division 1 or 2 of the Nurses Board of WA register, and practicing in a clinical area.

4. Can I have an extension on the 5 week course?

- NO
- Extensions on the 5 week course are not possible. Once the course has begun it takes up to 5 weeks to complete the course modules.
- This course is no different to any external learning commitment; the 5 week timeframe needs to be adhered to.
- If you have any problems with this timeframe it is important to discuss this with your supervisor.

5. Once I receive the course pack, what do I do?

- The pack has all the information you require.
- Take time to read through all the support material.
- Your supervisor will contact you within two weeks of receiving your pack.
- You have up to 5 weeks to complete the course, so take the time to work out a study plan and speak to your supervisor if you have any problems.
- Book a time for your written exam with your supervisor.
- Book a time for your clinical assessment with your supervisor.

6. How can I get help?

- Help is only a phone call or an email away.
- Your supervisor is always your first point of call.
- Your Divisional Immunisation Program Officer is also available to support you or to refer you to someone who can.

7. How do I become a supervisor and support other nurses within my practice?

- Once you have completed the course (and passed), you can contact your DIPO to let them know you are keen to provide peer support for fellow Practice Nurses within your practice as a Supervisor.
- There is a small amount of formal paperwork to complete, so a formal record can be maintained by the Communicable Disease Control Directorate – Department of Health.
- It doesn't take much of your time, but allows other nurses to speak to someone "in the field", with current experience to guide them in the right direction in their studies.
- Note: there is no payment or financial remuneration for being a supervisor, it is all about peer support – nurses supporting nurses.

8. Why do I need to do the Immunisation Certification Course?

- The Immunisation Certification Course is a great way of updating and reviewing immunisation knowledge and skills.
- It is also a way of ensuring "best practice" service delivery, as you will have current guidelines on all aspects of immunisation, including legislation and accreditation.
- Using best practice to ensure nurses are providing patients with optimal health outcomes.

9. If I don't do the course can I still give immunisations?

- YES
- Completion of a certified / approved immunisation course is currently not a prerequisite to service delivery. BUT, this does not mean that in the future this will change.

10. How / when do I do my written exam?

- The written exam can be done at completion of your study period.
- Book a time with your supervisor that suits you both. The exam can be faxed to your practice or a meeting place can be arranged with your supervisor.
- It takes approximately 1 hour and is an open book exam.
- You can utilize your course resources to assist you to complete the exam questions, but your supervisor will be unable to assist you during the exam.
- The written exam is made up of multiple choice and short answer questions.

11. Once I do the exam how do I go about doing the clinical assessment?

- The clinical assessment can be done at a meeting place and at a time that suits you and your supervisor,

12. Will I be notified of immunisation updates?

- Yes, immunisation updates are promoted annually through the Health Department and through your local General Practice Network.
- It is important that you attend one of these updates annually to ensure immunisation competency standards.

