

ATTENTION ALL PRACTICE STAFF

2009 Paediatric Influenza Study for children aged 6 months to 5 years

The Communicable Disease Control Directorate is pleased to announce continuation of the Paediatric Influenza Immunisation Program for all children in the Western Australia in 2009.

This decision is in response to the overwhelming success of last year's program, made possible through the dedication of WA's health care providers.

Vaccine Formulations and Availability

All children aged 6 months to < 5 years may receive free influenza vaccine this year.

Vaccines available are either Fluvax or Vaxigrip

Dosage for both Fluvax and Vaxigrip:

- ✦ For children < 3 years of age 0.25 ml given IM or SC injection
- ✦ For children > 3 years to 5 years 0.5 ml given IM or SC injection



Recommended Number of Doses per Child

The recommended number of doses of influenza vaccine depends on the child's influenza history.

- ✦ Children in a practice/clinic who have received 1 or no doses of influenza vaccine ever in their lives should receive 2 doses of vaccine this year, with the doses given at least 1 month apart.
- ✦ Children in your practice/clinic who have received 2 or more doses of influenza vaccine at any time in their lives prior to the current year require only 1 dose of vaccine this year.

For further information for practice / clinic staff or consumers go to:

<http://www.flukills.org.au/index.html>

