

Significant events in hepatitis B vaccination practice in Australia

Year	Month	Intervention
1973		CSL began manufacturing hepatitis B immunoglobulin
1982		Serum derived hepatitis B vaccine registered for use in adults
1985		Serum derived hepatitis B vaccine registered for use in neonates
1986		<p>Vaccination recommended for at-risk adults (3 doses):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • high-risk populations such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and immigrants and refugees from high endemicity countries • healthcare workers (including dentists, acupuncturists and morgue attendants) • residents and staff of institutions for the intellectually disabled • homosexual men • injecting drug users • haemodialysis patients • recipients of factor VIII or IX blood product concentrates • household and sexual contacts of hepatitis B carriers • inmates of correctional facilities and prison wardens <p>Vaccination recommended for babies born to HBsAg positive mothers (3 doses – birth, 1 month, 6 months)</p>
1987–1988		Two recombinant hepatitis B vaccines registered, replacing the serum derived vaccine
~1987		Vaccination recommended for infants and young children in ethnic groups with a high hepatitis B carriage rate (Note: this recommendation was implemented at different times in each jurisdiction)
1990		Funded neonatal hepatitis B vaccination for all infants introduced in the NT (3-dose schedule; birth, 1 month, 6 months)
1991		List of at-risk individuals for whom hepatitis B vaccination is recommended expanded to include: staff and attendees of non-residential institutions for the intellectually disabled; patients being treated for a sexually transmitted disease; long-term travellers to high endemicity countries
1994		A single booster dose of hepatitis B vaccine recommended for high-risk individuals 5 years after their last vaccination, with the exception of children aged <10 years vaccinated as infants
1996		<p>Hepatitis B vaccination recommended and funded for all adolescents aged 11–12 years (3-dose schedule using the paediatric formulation)</p> <p>Vaccination recommended for all infants (birth, 1 month, 6–12 months)</p>
1997	February	<p>List of at-risk individuals for whom hepatitis B vaccination is recommended expanded to include: individuals with chronic liver disease or hepatitis C; police and members of the armed forces, depending on duties</p> <p>Hepatitis B vaccination funded for adolescents aged 11–12 years (3-dose schedule)</p>
1998		<p>School-based programs commenced for one cohort of adolescents aged 11–14 years in VIC and TAS</p> <p>One-off, school-based catch-up campaign conducted in the NT for children aged 6–16 years</p>

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1999	February	School-based programs commenced for one cohort of adolescents aged 11–14 years in SA and ACT. Other jurisdictions delivered vaccine through community immunisation providers (e.g. GPs, councils). Combined DTPa-hepB vaccine registered for primary immunisation and as a booster in children
	December	Combined Hib(PRP-OMP)-hepB vaccine registered for use in infants aged 6 weeks to 15 months
2000	March	Thiomersal-free paediatric hepatitis B vaccine registered Hepatitis B booster doses no longer recommended, with the exception of immunocompromised individuals
	March	List of at-risk individuals for whom hepatitis B vaccination is recommended expanded to include: embalmers; ambulance personnel; individuals adopting children who are HBsAg positive from overseas
	May	Funded vaccination of all infants in a childhood schedule with a birth dose of monovalent paediatric hepatitis B vaccine, followed by 3 doses of combination vaccine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTPa-hepB vaccine (ACT, NSW, NT, QLD and SA), at 2, 4 and 6 months • Hib(PRP-OMP)-hepB vaccine (TAS, VIC and WA), at 2, 4 and 12 months
2001	April	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV and DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccines registered for primary immunisation in infants aged ≥ 6 weeks and as a booster in children aged 18 months
		Adolescent school-based vaccination program in the ACT and VIC changed to using 2 doses of the adult formulation
2002		Adolescent school-based vaccination program in SA and WA changed to using 2 doses of the adult formulation
2003	September	Adolescent school-based vaccination program in TAS changed to using 2 doses of the adult formulation
		List of at-risk individuals for whom hepatitis B vaccination is recommended expanded to include HIV-positive individuals; other immunosuppressed adults; liver transplant recipients; tattooists and body piercers
2004		NSW commenced state-wide adolescent school-based vaccination program using 2 doses of the adult formulation
2005	November	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine used in ACT, NSW, TAS and WA (for non-Indigenous infants); Hib-hepB containing vaccine continued to be used in other jurisdictions and in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants in WA
2007		QLD commenced state-wide adolescent school-based vaccination program using 2 doses of the adult formulation
2008	March	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine used in QLD, SA and VIC
2009	February	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine used in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants in WA
	March	Advice provided in NSW that 1st dose of DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine could be given as early as 6 weeks of age
	October	Combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine used in NT
2011	November	Advice provided nationally that 1st dose of DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine could be given as early as 6 weeks of age

Year	Month	Intervention
2013	March	List of at-risk individuals for whom hepatitis B vaccination is recommended expanded to include patients with severe impairment of renal function; solid organ and haematopoietic stem cell transplant recipients; sex industry workers
	March	List of at-risk individuals for whom hepatitis B vaccination is recommended revised for recipients of factor VIII or IX blood product concentrates to be persons with clotting disorders who receive blood product concentrates or persons with recurrent transfusion requirements
2014	September	Second combined DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib vaccine registered for use in infants aged ≥ 6 weeks