



Topic Talks

Immunisation = Lives Saved

Immunisation is a topic often steeped in public controversy, but comes from a long and strong scientific background that has seen millions of lives saved globally. This week, let's learn more about immunisation.

Some facts:

- Vaccination is one of the most effective and cost-effective public health interventions
- It is estimated that immunisation prevents around 2.5 million deaths each year.
- Australia has one of the most comprehensive publically funded immunisation programs in the world.

- More than 200 years ago, Edward Jenner introduced a vaccination against smallpox. The first Smallpox vaccine was used in Australia in 1804. Smallpox was eradicated globally by 1979
- As a result of successful vaccination programs, many diseases have either been eradicated or are extremely rare in Australia, such as
 - Tetanus
 - Diphtheria
 - Haemophilus influenzae type b
 - Poliomyelitis

Let's talk

Suggested questions to ask yourself or your peers this week



How would you rate your level of understanding of this topic?

Watch a webinar, listen to a podcast, look at the websites. Learn something new.

What are the challenges for immunisation programs in your community?

Do you know what the current immunisation rates are in your community? What are the implications for practice?

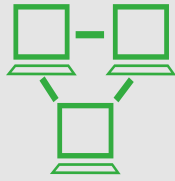
Many people have questions about the COVID vaccines, what are the reputable resources you can point them toward?

Find out what is available and how to access it

What are 2 new pieces of information you have learned about the topic this week?

Think about what you have learned. How can you use this learning going forward?

Loddon Mallee Activities and Resources



What's on the Web?



References:



Tuesdays@2 Webinar Series

Tuesday 20th April 2pm : Join the webinar via the [Bendigo Health Website](#)

or via zoom <https://bendigohealth.zoom.us/j/93324155450?pwd=Nm9iSUZmSEl4enJHWFRheWRtaTdaUT09>

Speaker: Andrew Mahoney - Head of Public Health and Infectious Diseases Unit

Topic: COVID-19 Vaccine and FAQs (Recorded Feb 2021)

WHO World Immunisation Week 24-30 April. More information here

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-immunization-week>

Unicef: World Immunisation

Week <https://www.unicef.org/immunization/immunization-week>

E-Learning:

- Australian Government Department of Health: COVID-19 Vaccination training program <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccination-training-program>

Webcasts:

- Immunisation Coalition: Several webinars available <https://www.immunisationcoalition.org.au/?s=webinars>
- NCIRS (2019) Working together to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander immunisation [52:07] <https://www.ncirs.org.au/ncirs-seminarwebinar-series/101219-working-together-improve-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander>

Apps

- The Australian Immunisation Handbook <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/about-the-handbook/mobile-app>
- Victorian Immunisation Schedule App <https://mvec.mcri.edu.au/victorian-immunisation-schedule-app-2/>
- The Maternal and Child Health Phone App <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/mchapp>

Web Sites:

- Australian Government Department of Health (2021) Immunisation <https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/immunisation>
- Immunisation Coalition (2021) <https://www.immunisationcoalition.org.au/>

- Australian Government Department of Health (2021) Immunisation <https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/immunisation>
- Australian Governments Department of Health (2021) Australian Immunisation Handbook <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/>
- National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance (2021) History of immunisation in Australia <https://www.ncirs.org.au/health-professionals/history-immunisation-australia>