

ACT SCHOOL HEALTH TEAM

Who are we, what do we do and where are we headed?

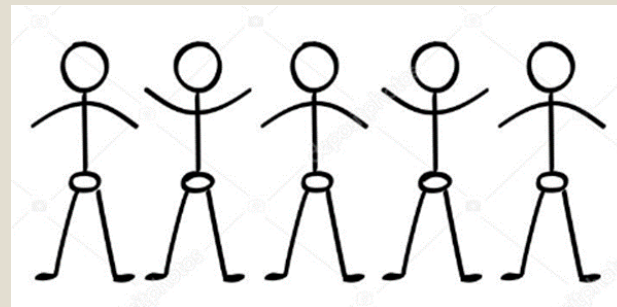
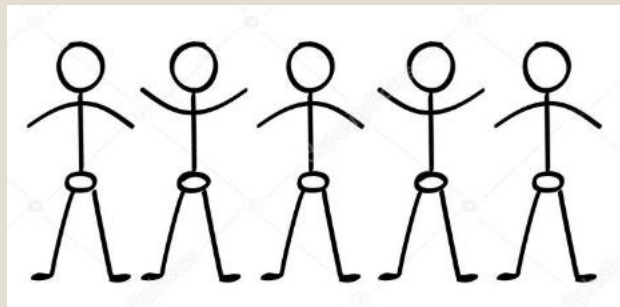
Capital Health Network Immunisation Education Seminar 8 – 19th June 2018
Amy Beath – Registered Nurse, School Immunisation Coordinator

Outline

- Overview of the School Health Team
- Benefits of the School Immunisation Program
- Overview of the evolving School Immunisation Program
- The 2018 school program
- Emerging statistics – how do we compare to everyone else?
- Challenges of School Based Programs
- Where to from here?

ACT School Health Team – Who we are!

- Team of 8 FTE Registered Nurses and dedicated admin team
- Operate school hours during school terms
- Visit all non-government and public schools in ACT
- Coordinate ACT Kindy health screens
- Administer year 7 school vaccinations under the National Immunisation Program
- 2018, introduction of year 10 Meningococcal ACWY vaccine – funded by ACT Government



Benefits of a School Immunisation Program

- Programs across Australia have been operating for 80 years
- Schools offer the perfect location for one-off mass immunisation!



School Immunisation in the ACT – a 10 year snapshot

Year	Vaccines Administered
2007	Year 7 -12 – HPV (girls only) Year 9 – dTpa
2008	Year 7 – hep B, Varicella, HPV (girls only) Year 9 - dTpa
2009-2012	Year 7 – hep B, Varicella, HPV (girls only) Year 9 - dTpa
2013	Year 7 – hep B, Varicella, HPV – (for boys and girls) Year 9 – dTpa, HPV (for boys only)
2014	Year 7 – dTpa, Varicella, HPV Year 8 – dTpa Year 9 – dTpa, HPV (boys only)
2015-2017	Year 7 – dTpa, Varicella, HPV

2018 School Immunisation Program

Attention Year 7 Parents

Your child's first round of vaccinations are due in Semester 1

Your School can provide you with the date

The following vaccines will be offered FREE as part of the ACT School Immunisation Program in Semester 1



Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Dose 1



If you have not returned your child's consent card please:



FIND



SIGN



RETURN

Where can I get more information?
<http://www.health.act.gov.au/our-services/immunisation/high-school-immunisation-program>



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www.health.act.gov.au | www.act.gov.au | Enquiries: Canberra 13ACT1 or 132281

Attention Year 10 Parents

Your child's vaccinations are during Semester 1

Your School can provide you with the date

The following vaccines will be offered FREE as part of the ACT School Immunisation Program during Semester 1



Meningococcal ACWY 1 Dose

If you have not returned your child's consent card please:



FIND



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Attention Year 7 Parents

Your child's second round of vaccinations are due in Semester 2

Your School can provide you with the date

The following vaccines will be offered FREE as part of the ACT School Immunisation Program in Semester 2



Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Dose 2



Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (whooping cough) dTpa



If you have not returned your child's consent card please:



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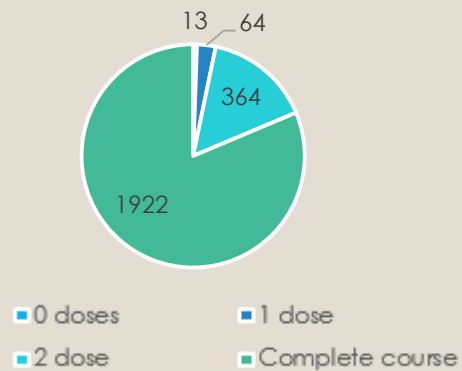
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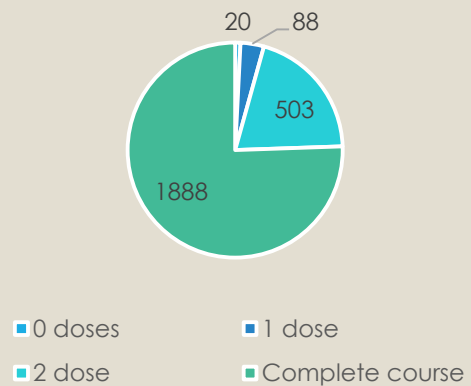
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2017 ACT HPV Uptake Statistics

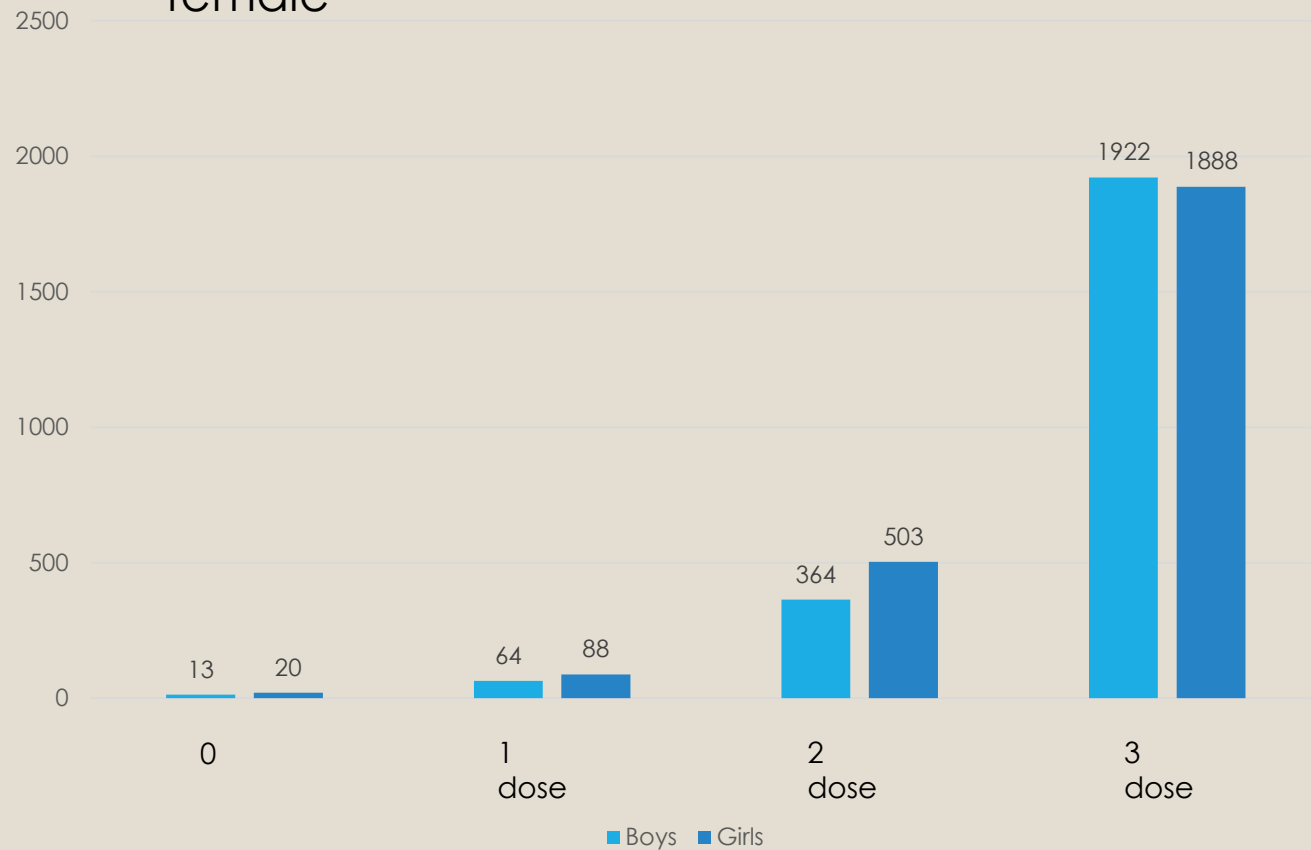
HPV Uptake - male
2017



HPV Uptake - female
2017

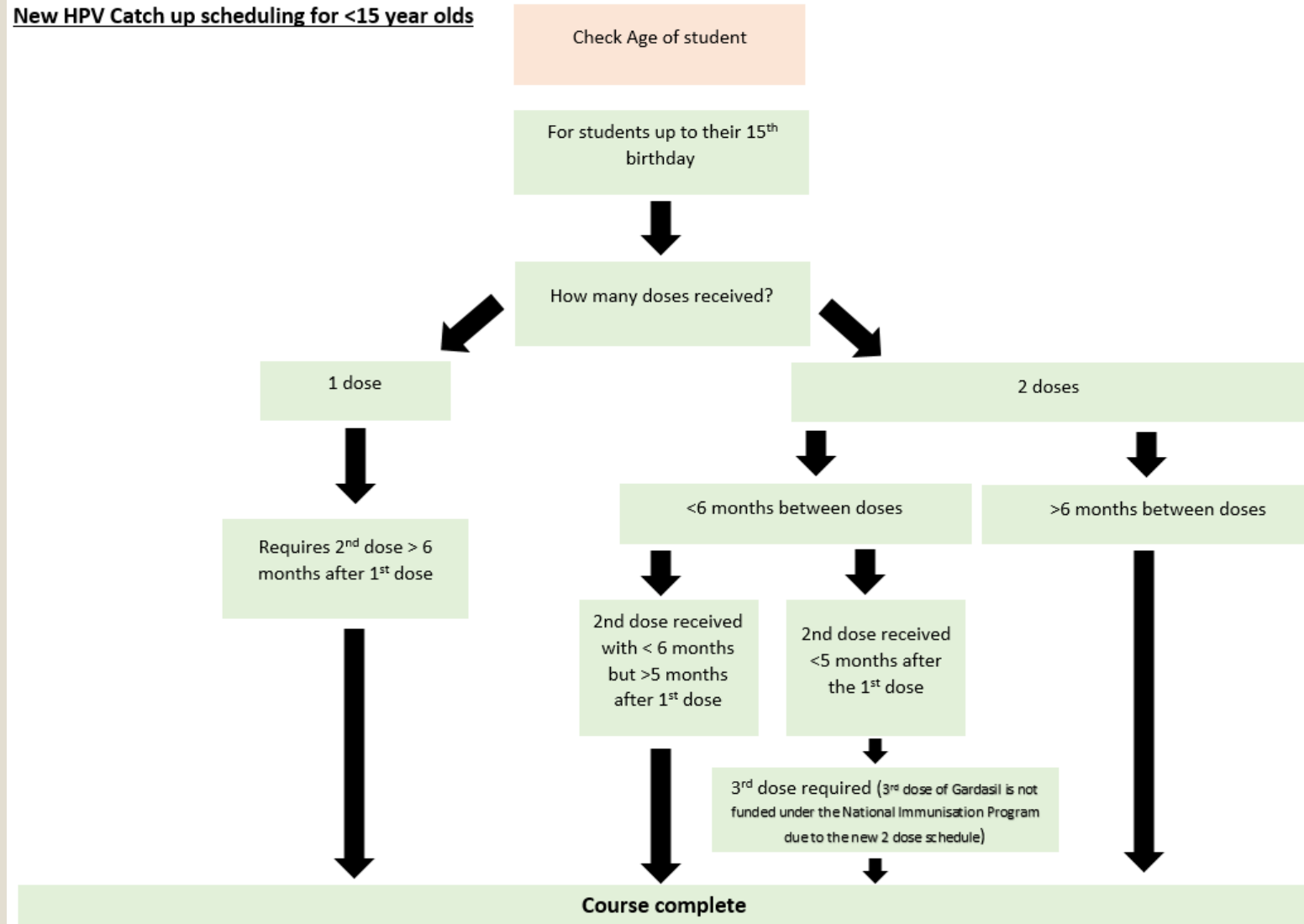


2017 HPV Uptake Rates – male and female



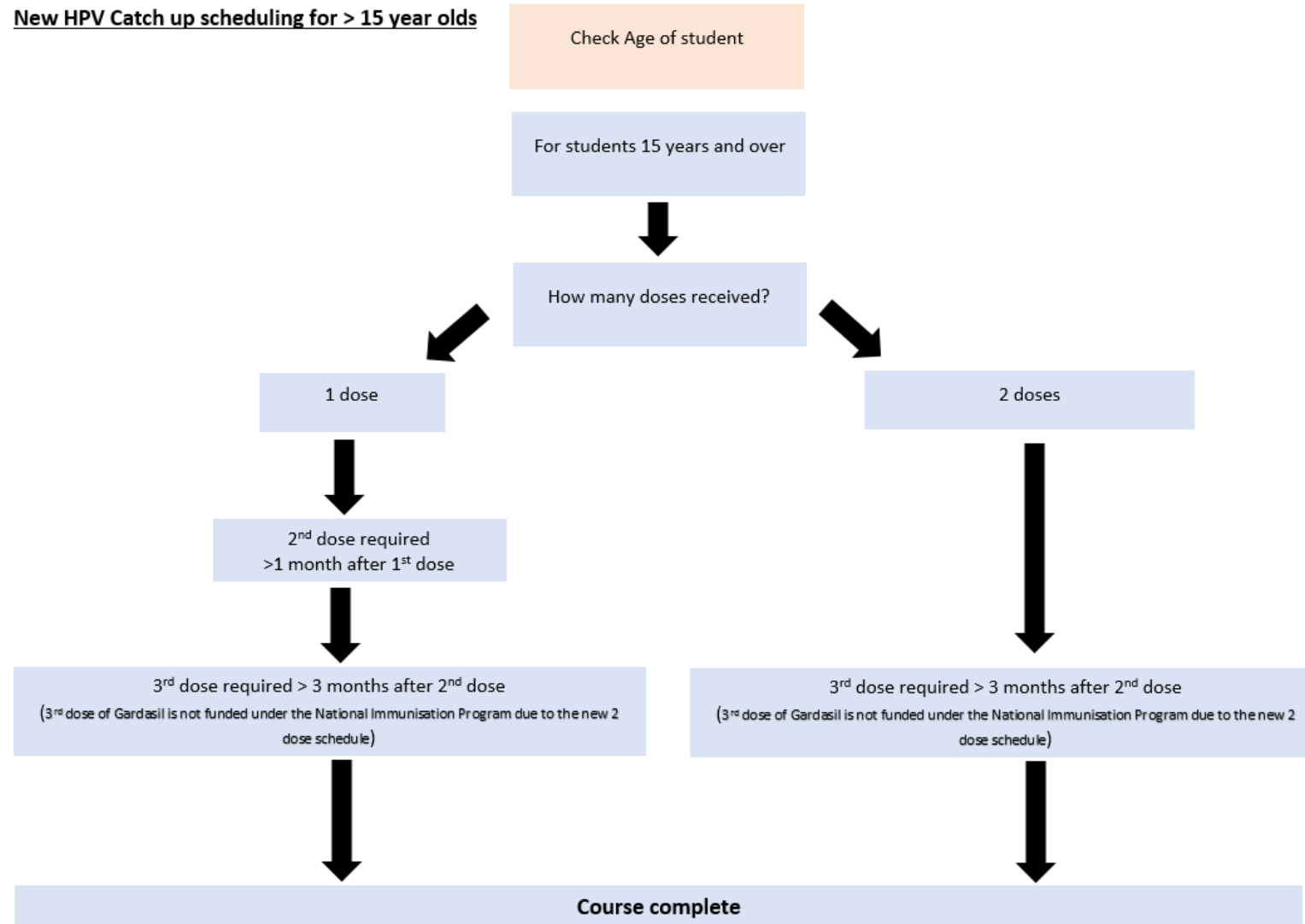
New HPV Catch up scheduling for 2018

New HPV Catch up scheduling for <15 year olds



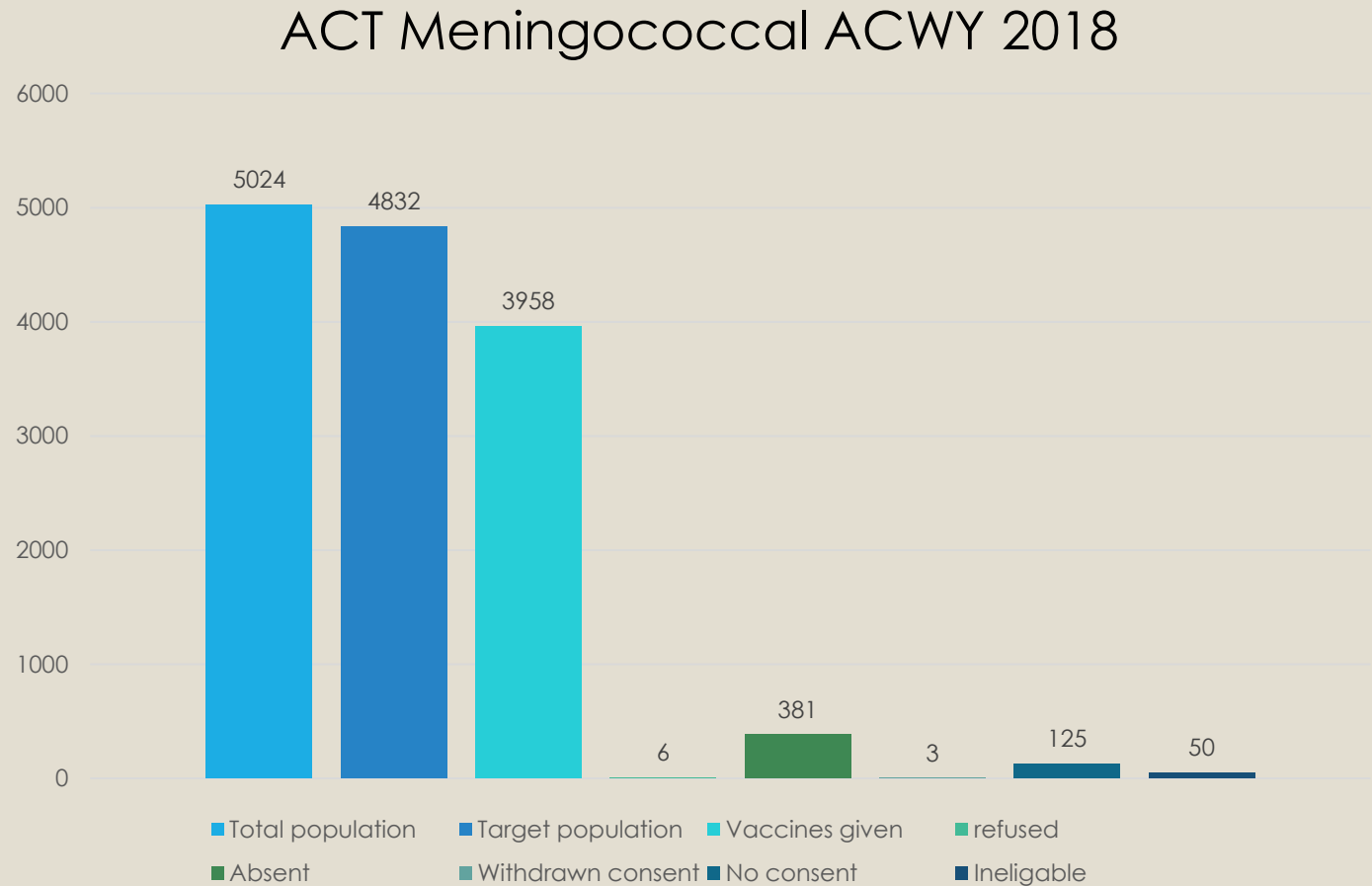
New HPV Catch up scheduling – based on age

New HPV Catch up scheduling for > 15 year olds

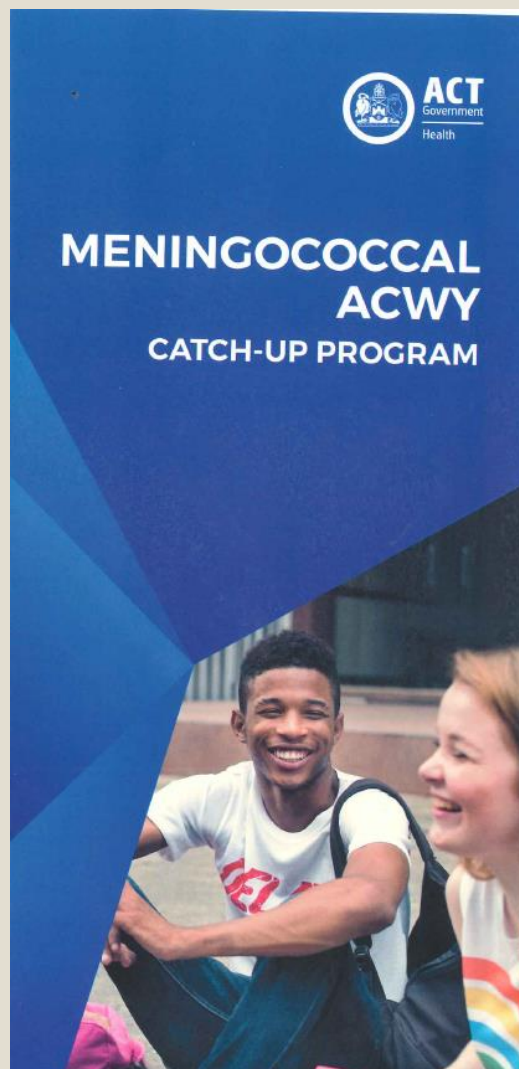


Emerging Statistics – 2018 MenACWY

- 4473 consent cards returned (89% of total population)
- 3958 vaccines administered (81.9% of target population)
- 6 students refused
- 381 students absent (8%)
- 3x withdrawn consent
- 125 'no' consent
- 50x students ineligible
- 11 Vaccines wasted.



MenACWY – ACT 2018



FACT SHEET



Meningococcal ACWY school vaccination program

What is meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal bacteria are carried in the nose and throat of healthy individuals and are spread through prolonged household or intimate contact, for example kissing. Meningococcal disease is caused by multiple strains of meningococcal bacteria. This programme addresses the A, C, W and Y strains.

Meningococcal disease is a rare but severe infection that occurs when meningococcal bacteria invade the body from the throat or nose and enters the bloodstream.

Symptoms include fever, headache, vomiting, stiff neck or sore muscles, sometimes followed by a red or purple rash. The disease can progress very quickly and can lead to death or permanent disability.

Who is eligible for the free meningococcal ACWY vaccine?

The meningococcal ACWY vaccine provides protection against A, C, W, and Y strains and is administered as a single dose.

The vaccine is free to students in year 10 through a school-based vaccination

program. There will also be a free catch-up program available to all people aged between 16 and 19 years through their GP in the first year of the program, beginning in February 2018. While the vaccine is provided free by the ACT Government, the doctor may charge a consultation fee.

Why is ACT offering this program?

Although uncommon, meningococcal disease can become life-threatening very quickly.

Since 2014 meningococcal W and meningococcal Y cases have increased in number across Australia. Meningococcal W disease is associated with a higher chance of dying from the disease, compared with other strains of meningococcal disease circulating in Australia.

Young people are at increased risk of meningococcal disease and more likely to spread the bacteria to others.

The vaccination program aims to protect young people and reduce risks for the community as a whole by decreasing the number of people carrying the bacteria in their nose and throat.

INFORMATION



Frequently Asked Questions for Meningococcal ACWY Vaccine in Schools

What is Meningococcal disease?

Meningococcal bacteria are carried in the nose and throat of healthy individuals and are spread through prolonged household or intimate contact, for example kissing. Meningococcal disease is caused by multiple strains of meningococcal bacteria. This programme addresses the A, C, W and Y strains.

Meningococcal disease is a rare but severe infection that occurs when meningococcal bacteria invade the body from the throat or nose and enters the bloodstream.

Symptoms include fever, headache, vomiting, stiff neck or sore muscles, sometimes followed by a red or purple rash. The disease can progress very quickly and can lead to death or permanent disability.

Why is the Meningococcal ACWY vaccination program targeting Year 10 students?

Older teenagers and young adults are at increased risk of meningococcal disease, more likely to carry the bacteria in their nose and throat, and more likely to spread the bacteria to others. The vaccination program aims to protect young people and reduce risks for the community as a whole by decreasing the number of people carrying the bacteria in their nose and throat.

ACT School Immunisation Program is offering every Year 10 student a free immunisation against meningococcal ACWY which is given as one injection.

How many doses will be required?

One dose of meningococcal ACWY vaccine is required.

Do I need to sign the consent card for my adolescent to be vaccinated?

Yes, a completed consent card signed by a parent/legal guardian must be returned to the school for a child to be vaccinated when the Schools Health Team visits.

What happens if I don't return the consent card?

Students will not be vaccinated without a completed and signed consent card.

Our Challenges

- Consent process - ACT remains paper-based.
- Inconsistent communication and location suitability within schools.
- Inconsistent parent understanding of vaccine risk vs. benefit and “social media” information.
- No “Catch-Up” system within school health system – relies on parents booking appointments with primary health care providers to complete course.
- Changes to HPV schedule and ‘Catch Up Scheduling’ from previous years.
- AIR updates and information sharing between health care providers.



Requesting information

<http://www.health.act.gov.au/our-services/immunisation/adolescents>

General Practice requests:

- **Records from 2018**
- Parent/Client can check their vaccination history through the [myGov](#) website.
- **Before 2018**
- HPV doses - access the National HPV Register <http://www.hpvregister.org.au> or phoning 1800 478 374.
- Any other school vaccine (prior to 2018), phone School Health Team 6205 2086. With parental consent we can provide you with a verbal record.

Where to from here?

- Address the gaps in parent knowledge.
- Continue the prevalence of information for year 6 parents in term 4 of school.
- Review of the consent form for ACT School Health Program.
- Continue to capture data on program delivery.
- Review of program for 2019 onwards to ensure appropriate timing in vaccine delivery.
- Continual upload of student immunisation records on AIR.



References

ACT Government Education Directorate. 2018. Census of ACT Schools February 2018.

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Commonwealth of Australia. 2014. National Immunisation Strategy for Australia 2013–2018. [Online] Available at:
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Ward K et al. 2013. A history of Adolescent school-based vaccination in Australia. CDI;17

Ward K et al. 2013. Adolescent school-based vaccination in Australia. CDI;37(2):E156–67.

Contact details

- School Health Team
City Health Centre
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Civic ACT
- Amy Beath – Immunisation Coordinator
- Schoolimmunisation@act.gov.au
- 6205 2086

www.health.act.gov.au/our-services/immunisation/adolescents