

SCHEDULE 8: VACCINATIONS



DOCUMENT CONTROL

Name:	Australian Cricket (AC) General Vaccination Guidelines
Version:	7.0
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Review due:	1 July 2027
Owner:	Chief Medical Officer
File location:	AMS or AC Performance Services ZenDesk
Document type (& enforceability):	Guidelines (recommendation)
Responsible parties:	CA Medical Officers; State Medical Officers
Beneficiaries:	All players and staff

RELATED DOCUMENTS & LINKS

Document Name	Location
Australian National Immunisation Program schedule	https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/national-immunisation-program-schedule?language=en
CA Vaccination Recommendation List	ZenDesk
Vaccination Refusal Form	ZenDesk

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1** The purpose of the Australian Cricket (AC) General Vaccination Policy (**“the Policy”**) is to:
- ensure the welfare of AC players and staff;
 - comply with Australian Government requirements and recommendations on Vaccinations, and
 - comply with International Government requirements on vaccinations for entry and exit.
- 1.2** The Policy has been developed through a series of consultations and stages including (1) Informal guidelines to (2) Formal guidelines in season 2020-21 to (3) Policy since season 2021-22 (4) Downgraded back to formal guidelines for season 2026-27, with the exceptions regarding overseas travel listed in 2.2.

2. SCOPE

2.1 This Policy applies to the following:

- a) State and CA male and female contracted players, including Rookies;
- b) anyone forming part of a touring squad travelling overseas in a CA-affiliated team (this includes staff – employees, contractors or consultants), and;
- c) where health authorities require some vaccinations to allow entry into a certain region

2.2 As a general principle, vaccination requirements for overseas travel currently reach the level of “policy” and are therefore mandatory for travel to these locations to take place, whereas vaccination recommendation for everyday life in Australian and infection control measures are at the level of “guidelines” and are therefore recommendations. Players may choose to opt out of vaccinations, accepting that their ability to tour or attend events where vaccines are required might be compromised.

2.3 **Pathway players**, including those participating in National Championships within Australia, are encouraged to be vaccinated, but not required to comply with this Policy. However, in preparation for a National Championships, if it is known that there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease at the Championship venue (e.g. measles/mumps), then the CA CMO and Tournament Medical Officer for the National Championships may choose, at short notice, to require Pathway players to comply vaccination guidelines.

2.4 **Second XI or other non-contracted players** are similarly not required to comply with this policy, although vaccination in these players is to be encouraged.

2.5 **International visiting playing in domestic competitions, including BBL and WBBL** players are encouraged to, but not required to comply with this policy, as Vaccination is primarily the responsibility of their home country and compliance would be impractical given the short amount of time some of them spend in Australia. If it is known that there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease during the tournaments they are participating in, (e.g. measles/mumps), then the CA CMO may require them to comply to ensure their health and those of others is protected.

3. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

3.1 CA endorses the National Vaccination Schedule of the various Australian states and the immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au. CA strongly encourages all doctors, high performance staff and players to follow the schedule as a minimum, along with consideration of additional vaccinations over and above the schedule where it is possible to prevent disease that could potentially affect performance as an elite athlete (including touring). See [Appendix 1](#) for National Immunisation Program (NIP) and the CA vaccination recommendations based on the NIP.

3.2 The CA Medical team, through the CA CMO will provide specific vaccination advice for individuals and teams traveling overseas for CA endorsed tournaments and events. Vaccinations specifically required for travel (i.e. vaccines not included in the National Immunisation Program) should be covered by the organisation arranging the travel.

3.3 Medical advice may be sought on the basis of a (rare) genuine contra-indication to vaccination, such as previous anaphylatic reaction to a vaccine. Lack of belief in the value of vaccination will not be considered a valid medical contra-indication.

3.4 Players who refuse vaccination prior to international travel after discussion and information being provided by an AC Medical Officer will be required to sign (and/or

player's parents if the player is <18 years old) the attached "Vaccine Refusal Form" ([Appendix 2](#) of this Policy).

- 3.5** Refusing vaccination may waive the ability to travel. In some circumstances, state or national health departments may require proof of certain vaccinations in order to cross borders that are closed for travel. Similarly, for certain overseas tours the CA Medical Team, CA Work Health & Safety and CA Risk Departments may determine that certain vaccinations may be considered essential in order to safely tour overseas. During any of these circumstances, a touring party member may be required to choose between vaccinating for travel or withdrawing from travel if they do not agree to be vaccinated and do not have a valid medical contraindication. In summary, the Vaccine Refusal Form ([Appendix 2](#)) is only relevant where the right to refuse a vaccine is still considered compatible with the right to participate. If participation in an overseas tour requires vaccination, then this form is not applicable.
- 3.6** All vaccinations and seroconversions for players and staff must be recorded, with their consent, on AMS/MediRecords for the benefit of other treating doctors, especially tour doctors, to ensure all touring party members are up to date.
- 3.7** It is noted that if a player has been part of the Australian Immunisation Register, AC Medical Officers (with a PRODA login) can import AIR details into AMS/MediRecords (with player's or staff member consent assumed if they have consented to AIR), in order to make a player's vaccination record more complete.

REVISIONS

DATE	BY
July 2021	CA Chief Medical Officer, CA Women's Team Doctor, CA Men's Team Doctor and Dr Cassy Workman.
July, 2022	CA Chief Medical Officer, CA Women's Team Doctor, CA Men's Team Doctor and Dr Cassy Workman.
July 2023	CA Chief Medical Officer CMO. Dr Cassy Workman.
July 2024	CA Chief Medical Officer, Dr Cassy Workman
June 2025	CA Chief Medical Officer
June 2026	CA Chief Medical Officer, CA SSSM Research Specialist