

Common side-effects

In the first few days following your vaccination you may experience some mild and temporary side-effects.

FLU VACCINE (Influenza)



Soreness, burning, itching, redness or swelling in the area where the needle was given



Low-grade temperature (feeling a bit hot)



Feeling tired or drowsy



Muscle aches

PNUEMONIA VACCINE (Pneumococcal)



Soreness, burning, itching, redness or swelling in the area where the needle was given



Low-grade temperature (feeling a bit hot)

Side-effects should only last a few days. You can help ease the discomfort of these side-effects by:



Drinking lots of water



Putting an ice pack on the area that you had your needle



Taking Paracetamol if you are feeling hot or sore (follow the directions on the package)

Further information

Townsville University Hospital
Phone: 4433 1111

Health Contact Centre
Phone: 13HEALTH (134 32584)

In the case of an emergency please call 000

Townsville Hospital and Health Service
100 Angus Smith Drive, Douglas QLD 4810

Published by Townsville Hospital and Health Service
www.townsville.health.qld.gov.au



Partnering with Consumers - This patient information brochure supports National Safety and Quality Health Service Standard 2. Consumers and/or carers provided feedback on this patient information.



© The State of Queensland (Townsville Hospital and Health Service) 2021, creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au

Townsville
Hospital
and Health
Service

National Indigenous Pneumococcal and Influenza Immunisation Program (NIPPI)



Queensland
Government

NIPII is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander immunisation service which is offered at no cost to all eligible clients (15 years and over) who are unlikely to access traditional GP/health services.

NIPII is delivered in the community in consultation with community partners.

What is Influenza (the flu)?

The flu is a virus which spreads from person to person through the air and on your hands.

If you get the flu you may get a high fever, bad cough, joint pains, body aches, have difficulty breathing and feel very tired.

Most people only get sick for a week but some people get sicker and need to go to hospital. In some cases people can die from the flu.

Can the flu be prevented?

Yes, the flu can be prevented by annual vaccination.

The flu changes all the time, that's why you need to get the flu shot every year.

You will NOT get the flu from a flu vaccination because the vaccine is not a live virus.

What is Pneumococcal disease (Pneumonia)?

Pneumococcal disease is a bacterial infection that can cause pneumonia, infections in your bloodstream and meningitis (inflammation around your brain).

The disease is especially serious for young children and older people.

Can Pneumonia be prevented?

Yes, you can protect yourself and others from pneumonia by getting vaccinated. The more people who are vaccinated in your community, the less likely the disease will spread.

Why should I get vaccinated?

Vaccinating against the flu and pneumonia is important to help keep you, your family and your community healthy.

Getting vaccinated can also reduce the need for you to go to hospital.



Flu vaccine

Every Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person 6 months of age and over can have a FREE flu vaccine.

Please see your doctor if you are under 15 years of age.

Pneumonia vaccine

Every Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person 50 years of age or over can have a FREE pneumonia vaccine.

Please see your doctor if you are under 50 years of age and if you have a medical condition.

