Vaccination for migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum

Vaccination is a priority for all migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum after arriving in Australia. All age groups should receive catch-up vaccination.

1 Check vaccination history

- Check if the person has documentation of their vaccination history.
- Check all possible sources of vaccination records, in case the person has visited more than 1 vaccination provider.
- For recently arrived people, check the WHO vaccine-preventable diseases monitoring system to help understand vaccination schedules in other countries. Do not assume the person has received all of these vaccines.

2 Start catch-up vaccination

- Offer serological testing to:
  - people from hepatitis B–endemic countries to detect current or past infection
  - women of child-bearing age to identify those who are seronegative for rubella and need vaccination.
- Consider that some people may have received a live vaccine – such as yellow fever – as part of their departure screening. Wait at least 4 weeks before giving another live vaccine.

3 Record and report vaccination

- Report any vaccines that a person receives, and has previously received, to the Australian Immunisation Register.
- Provide people with a written record of all the vaccines they have received.

See the Australian Immunisation Handbook for more details.