

National Guide lifecycle chart | Child

Screening/assessment	How often?	Who?	Page*	Age (months)								Age (years)		
				Newborn	2	4	6	9	12	18	24	2-5	6-14	14-17
Child health														
Immunisation														
Vaccination	As per National Immunisation Program Schedule (NIPS)	All children	33	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Catch-up schedule	Opportunistically	Children behind in vaccination schedule	33	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Anaemia														
Nutritional history	6-9 months and 18 months	All children	35				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Perform haemoglobin test	6-9 months and 18 months (increase frequency if iron deficiency anaemia [IDA] is diagnosed); use age-appropriate haemoglobin levels to diagnose IDA Repeat test after six months; continue six-monthly testing if anaemia persists, in conjunction with age-appropriate treatment and review until age five years	Children in other areas with risk factors (refer to Chapter 3: Child health) All children aged >6 months from communities with a high prevalence of IDA	35				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Growth failure														
Growth monitoring	One week, six weeks, four, six, 12 and 18 months, and yearly to age five years	All children Use age-appropriate and sex-appropriate Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and World Health Organization growth charts	37		■	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■
Childhood kidney disease														
Check skin for scabies and impetigo and treat according to guidelines	Annually and opportunistically	Children living in areas with high rates of infectious skin disease	39		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Assess need for imaging tests	At first episode of urinary tract infection (UTI)	Children with first UTI	39		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Albumin-creatinine ratio (ACR)	At age 10 years or at puberty (whichever is earlier) after 2-5 years' diabetes duration, and annually thereafter	Children with pre-pubertal and pubertal onset diabetes	39										■	■
Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder														
Assess child growth and development, particularly head circumference, hearing and vision	Annually and opportunistically	All children (refer to Chapter 3: Child health, 'Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder')	42	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Assess child development and behaviour using a validated assessment tool, including for child social and emotional wellbeing Refer to a paediatrician for developmental assessment, or a child development service for multidisciplinary assessment	Annually and opportunistically	All children exposed to alcohol in the prenatal period, if there is a parental or clinician concern about the child not meeting normal developmental milestones	42	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Screen for prenatal alcohol exposure as well as cognitive, language and behavioural problems	On initial contact with child protection, police or justice system	All children at high risk for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD), including children coming into contact with the child protection, police or justice systems	42										■	■
Preventing child maltreatment														
Conduct routine monitoring of developmental milestones (refer to Chapter 3: Child health, 'Growth failure')	Annually and opportunistically	All children	44	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Assess the risk of child maltreatment and the need for support (refer to Chapter 3: Child health, 'Preventing child maltreatment')	Annually and opportunistically	All families	44	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Eye health														
Visual acuity														
General eye examination	Newborn and at 3-6 months	Infants (age 3-6 months)	66	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Screen for visual acuity	Annually and opportunistically or before school entry	Children aged 3-5 years	66										■	■
Hearing loss														
Vaccination (rubella, measles, <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b, meningococcus)	NIPS and state/territory schedules	Children aged <15 years	68	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccination (13vPCV)	NIPS and state/territory schedules	Infants aged two, four and six years (and 18 months in high-risk areas)	68		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Influenza vaccine	Annually pre-influenza season Prioritise provision of vaccination to high-risk groups in the pre-influenza season months (March-April)	People aged >15 years Children aged six months to five years All individuals aged ≥6 months with a chronic disease	68				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Universal neonatal hearing screening program	Prior to one month	Newborns	68	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Ear examination	Annually and opportunistically	Children aged <15 years	68	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Monitor for hearing loss	Annually and opportunistically Annually	Children aged <5 years and older children at high risk of hearing impairment Youth aged >15 years	69	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Oral and dental health														
Oral health review	Annually and opportunistically Annually	Children aged 0-5 years Children and youth aged 6-18 years	74		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Undertake oral health review as part of regular health check and offer appropriate oral hygiene advice to minimise oral bacterial levels	6-12-monthly	Children with past rheumatic heart disease and cardiovascular abnormalities	74										■	■
Respiratory health														
Influenza														
Influenza vaccine	Annually pre-influenza season Prioritise provision of vaccination to high-risk groups in the pre-influenza season months (March-April)	People aged >15 years Children aged six months to five years All individuals aged ≥6 months with a chronic disease	79				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Sexual health and blood-borne viruses														
Hepatitis C virus (HCV)														
HCV serology testing	18 months and repeat if positive	Infants born to HCV-infected mothers	103										■	■
Hepatitis B virus (HBV)														
Hepatitis B vaccination	At birth prior to leaving hospital and at two, four and six months	Neonates and infants	102	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Hepatitis B immunoglobulin (HBIG) and vaccination	HBIG within 12 hours and HBV within 24 hours	Babies born to mothers who are hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) positive	102	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

■ Age-specific ■ Condition-specific

*Page number refers to print version of the National guide to a preventive health assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

