



Delivering a Healthy WA

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Immunisation Certification Course has been developed to meet the training needs of nurses by standardising the education component of immunisation. It is designed to assist nurses in gaining the knowledge and skills necessary to become certified to give immunisations competently in areas of work where there may or may not be a medical officer on site.

The course includes both theoretical and clinical practice components. The self paced, distance education program is designed as a flexible learning program. The course content is aligned to the National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines with particular emphasis on the Department of Health Western Australia standards of practice.

The course is designed to support rural and remote, general and community nurses in their expanded and demanding practice role.

### Course Content:

- Immunity
- Routine immunisation schedules and vaccines
- Diseases for which routine immunisation is given
- Criteria for giving immunisation
- Anaphylaxis
- Consent
- Educating the person, family and community about the importance of being vaccinated
- Storage and transport of vaccines
- The role of the nurse
- Client assessment
- Management of an immunisation clinic
- Clinical practice
- Standard precautions
- Recording information following immunisation

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### 1. How do I go about doing the course?

- Enquiries for the course can be made through either your Regional Immunisation Coordinator, Divisional Immunisation Program Officer or Infection Control/Occupational Health and Safety Nurse
- Once you decide you want to do the course, send your completed form and cheque to Regional Immunisation Coordinator, Divisional Immunisation Program Officer or Infection Control/Occupational Health and Safety Nurse
- **Do not send your cheque directly to the Department of Health.**

### 2. Can EN's do the course?

- YES
- Applicants must be registered in Division 1 or 2 of the Nurses Board of WA register, and practicing in a clinical area.



4. **Can I have an extension on the 5 week course?**
  - NO
  - Extensions on the 5 week course are not possible. Once the course has begun it takes up to 5 weeks to complete the course modules.
  - This course is no different to any external learning commitment; the 5 week timeframe needs to be adhered to.
  - **If you have any problems with this timeframe it is important to discuss this with your nominated supervisor.**
  
5. **Once I receive the pack, what do I do?**
  - The pack has all the information you require. **Please note your Completion Date**
  - Take time to read through all the support material.
  - You have up to 5 weeks to complete the course, so take the time to work out a study plan and speak to your supervisor if you have any problems.
  - Book a time for your written exam with your supervisor.
  - Book a time for your practical exam
  
6. **How can I get help?**
  - Help is only a phone call or an email away.
  - Your supervisor is always your first point of call.
  - Your Regional Immunisation Coordinator, Divisional Immunisation Program Officer or Infection Control/Occupational Health and Safety Nurse is also available to support you or to refer you to someone who can.
  
7. **What do I do if I can't print out the course material?**
  - A hard copy of the course material can be obtained by contacting Vince Rettura.
  
8. **How do I become a supervisor and support other nurses?**
  - Once you have completed the course (and passed), you can contact your Regional Immunisation Coordinator, Divisional Immunisation Program Officer or Infection Control/Occupational Health and Safety Nurse to let them know you are keen to provide peer support for fellow Nurses as a Supervisor.
  - There is a small amount of formal paperwork to complete, so a formal record can be maintained by CDCD.
  - It doesn't take much of your time, but allows other nurses to speak to someone "in the field", with current experience to guide them in the right direction in their studies.
  - **Note: there is no payment or financial remuneration for being a supervisor, it is all about peer support - nurses supporting nurses.**
  
9. **Why do I need to do the Certification Immunisation Course?**
  - The Immunisation Certification Course is a great way of updating and reviewing immunisation knowledge and skills.
  - It is also a way of ensuring "best practice" service delivery, as you will have current guidelines on all aspects of immunisation, including legislation and accreditation.
  - Using best practice to ensure nurses are providing patients with optimal health outcomes.
  
10. **If I don't do the course can I still give immunisations?**
  - YES
  - Completion of a certified / approved immunisation course is currently now a prerequisite to service delivery. BUT, this does not mean that in the future this will change.