Vaccine Update 448 - Updated RSV resources from commonwealth, 'Matter of Vax' podcast

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Recent data from the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) shows instances where both RSV vaccines and monoclonal antibodies have been administered to ineligible cohorts.

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing has developed updated <u>resources</u> to support the correct administration of RSV vaccines and monoclonal antibodies.

Key points:

- A single dose of the RSV vaccine, Abrysvo®, is recommended for women at 28 to 36 weeks of pregnancy and is available for free through the National Immunisation Program (NIP).
- Arexvy® must not be administered to pregnant women.
- WA Health is offering the RSV monoclonal antibody, Beyfortus™ (Nirsevimab) for free to eligible infants and children.
- Abrysvo® and Arexvy® must not be administered to infants or children.

Please use these resources to ensure correct administration of these products and share among your health service.

Health professionals and stakeholders are encouraged to subscribe to receive the latest NIP updates directly from the Commonwealth government.

If you have questions or require further information, please contact immunisation.enquiries@health.gov.au.

New 'Matter of Vax' podcasts launched

Immunisation Foundation Australia (IFA) has announced the launch of the latest season of the <u>Matter of Vax podcast</u>. This engaging podcast and video series delves into the world of vaccine-preventable diseases, providing invaluable insights for both the public and health professionals.

This season's topics include:

- · Measles its re-emergence and vaccination importance
- Mpox understanding its origins, spread, and prevention
- Vaccine Safety the rigorous development and monitoring process
- Respiratory Infections understanding their impact and prevention
- Immunisations for Teens why staying up-to-date is highly important for young adults

The new videos and podcasts can be streamed or downloaded directly from the website. These resources are designed to be accessible educational tools that can assist in your important work, whether for patient education, staff training, or informing public health initiatives.

Host & Expert Guests: The host, Steph O'Connell, is a dedicated public health advocate whose personal journey with Meningococcal disease profoundly shaped her commitment to raising awareness about vaccine-preventable diseases. This season, Steph is joined by an incredible line-up of leading experts featured in the podcast episodes:

- · Catherine Hughes AM Co-founder, Immunisation Foundation of Australia
- Lily O'Connell Meningococcal survivor
- · Professor Christopher Blyth Director, Kids Research Institute
- · Professor Nicholas Wood General Paediatrician, NCIRS
- Dr. Gary Grohmann- Former Director, TGA & WHO consultant

We encourage you to explore this new season of evidence-based Matter of Vax resources and to share it within your networks.

Ready to learn more?

Head to the IFA website: Immunisation Foundation of Australia

- Subscribe to the podcast on your preferred platform (Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify).
- Follow IFA on social media (Facebook, X, Instagram).

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

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