



Changes to the routine childhood immunisation schedule in Wales and selective neonatal hepatitis B programme: 2025 and 2026

Toolkit for Healthcare Practitioners

This document has been designed to support healthcare practitioners with the changes to the childhood immunisation schedule.

Mae'r gwybodaeth hon ar gael yn Gymraeg. This information is available in Welsh.

In 2025 and 2026, the childhood immunisation schedule and selective neonatal hepatitis B programme in Wales are changing.

These changes follow recommendations from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), the UK government's expert scientific advisory committee on vaccination and immunisation. The recommendations follow from the commercial decision to discontinue the Menitorix® (Hib/MenC) vaccine.

What do I need to know?

It is important that you take time to understand the changes, share information with colleagues, and know where to find further resources. This is for both your own knowledge and to support your patients. This will help you deliver vaccinations confidently and respond to any questions.

Changes to the childhood immunisation schedule in Wales from the 1 July 2025:

- Menitorix® (Hib/MenC) vaccine is withdrawn from the routine immunisation schedule.
- The timings of the **Pneumococcal (PCV)** and **Meningococcal group B (MenB)** vaccines are changed.
 - The PCV vaccine is given at 16 weeks instead of 12 weeks.
 - The MenB vaccine is given at 12 weeks instead of 16 weeks.
- The monovalent hepatitis B dose offered at 12 months in the selective neonatal hepatitis B programme is replaced by an additional **DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB (6-in-1)** dose at 18 months (see below).

Changes to the childhood immunisation schedule in Wales from the 1 January 2026:

- A new vaccination appointment will be added to the childhood immunisation schedule at 18 months.
- An additional dose of Hib-containing vaccine **6-in-1** will be given in this new 18-month appointment.
- The second dose of the measles, mumps and rubella (**MMR**) vaccine will be brought forward from 3 years 4 months to the new 18-month appointment.

Important information – call to action

Due to an unavoidable delay, the NHS IT system (CYPrIS) used to schedule routine childhood immunisations will not be fully updated in time for the 1 July 2025 changes.

It is important that all healthcare professionals and staff who support the childhood immunisation schedule familiarise themselves with the information and know what you need to do.

For more information go to **Changes to the childhood immunisation schedule - Information for health professionals - Public Health Wales** (see 'CYPrIS cover letter') and view the dedicated recorded slide set **changes to the routine childhood vaccination schedule – Temporary delay with IT scheduling system (CYPrIS)**

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE READ
Changes to the Routine Childhood Immunisation Schedule (Wales)
Effective from Tuesday 1 July 2025

From 1 July 2025, there will be significant changes to the routine childhood immunisation schedule in Wales. You can read the Welsh Government policy here: [Changes to routine childhood and selective neonatal hepatitis B immunisation \(WHC/2025/019\) | GOV.UK](#)

IMPORTANT: Due to an unavoidable delay, the NHS IT system (CYPrIS) used to schedule routine childhood immunisations will not be fully updated in time for the 1 July 2025 changes.

This delay is likely to be ongoing for a few months. You will be notified as soon as the IT system has been updated.

This means:

- CYPrIS invitation letters to parents will contain outdated information
- CYPrIS scheduled forms sent to GP practices will also contain outdated information i.e. reporting PCV at 12 weeks instead of MenB (see scenarios below)
- CYPrIS will not reflect that after 1 July 2025 any child born before 1 July 2025 attending a 12-month immunisation appointment should receive the 6-in-1 vaccine instead of Hib/MenC.

It is therefore vital that all vaccinators are fully aware of the new schedule and follow it manually until the system is updated.

Age	Scenario	Action
1	Child attending 12-week immunisations before 1 July 2025	No change - continue with the existing schedule. At 12 weeks: Give 6-in-1, PCV and Rotavirus. At 18 weeks: Give 6-in-1 and MenB.
2	Child attending 12-week immunisations on or after 1 July 2025	Follow new schedule. At 12 weeks: Give 6-in-1, Hib/MenB, and Rotavirus. At 18 weeks: Give 6-in-1 and PCV.
3	From 1 July 2025, any child born before 1 July 2025 attending a 12-month immunisation appointment	Hib/MenC vaccine no longer available, give 6-in-1 instead. Hib/MenC and Hib/MenB are included in one year of age. In EHS this should be coded as a 2nd & 3rd dose of Hib/MenC. Record as second 3rd dose in child's record.

*The 6-in-1 vaccine includes protection against Hib and will replace the Hib/MenC when it is no longer available. For further information see: [Immunisation and Vaccines - Public Health Wales](#)

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 Vaccine Programme Wales and Public Health Wales NHS Trust

Awareness raising sessions:

- Learn about the changes by accessing a range of dedicated awareness raising sessions, including:
 - **Recording and slides of the 'Question and Answer Webinar'**
 - **Recordings and slides of dedicated 'Lunch and Learn' sessions** tailored for different healthcare professionals, including practice nurses, midwives, paediatricians and health visitors
 - **Recorded slide sets**, including:
 - Recorded slide set No. 1 (20/03/2025): *An Introduction to the Proposed Changes to the Routine Childhood Immunisation Schedule*
 - Recorded slide set No. 2 (17/04/2025): *Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) and MenB (Meningococcal B Vaccine) "Switch"*
 - Recorded slide set No. 3 (05/06/25): *No 3 in a series: Changes to the routine childhood vaccination schedule – Temporary delay with IT scheduling system (CYPrIS).*

All resources are available here **immunisation training resources and events - Public Health Wales**

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) resources:

It is important to highlight that the advice in relation to Hib/MenC (Menitorix®) in UKHSA resources, guidance and tools is different to Welsh policy. NHS Wales is deploying a 'hard stop' from 1 July 2025, whereby Hib/MenC (Menitorix®) will no longer be included in the childhood immunisation schedule in Wales. Please consider Welsh Policy **changes to routine childhood and selective neonatal hepatitis B vaccinations (WHC/2025/019) (external site)** and **selective neonatal Hepatitis B immunisation pathway (effective 1 July 2025) (external site)** when referring to the resources below.

- Read the relevant Green Book chapters **Immunisation against infectious disease (external site)**
- The UKHSA **childhood schedule changes from 1 July 2025: information for healthcare practitioners - GOV.UK (external site)** guidance provides detailed information about potential scenarios relating to these changes, including inadvertent administration and delayed vaccination.
- The **childhood immunisation eligibility calculator - Health Publications (external site)** is available to help you understand and plan what vaccines are due and when.
- Any children with uncertain or incomplete immunisation status should be managed according to the updated **vaccination of individuals with uncertain or incomplete immunisation - GOV.UK (external site)**
- Additional guidance:
 - **Hexavalent combination vaccine: programme guidance - GOV.UK (external site)**
 - **Pneumococcal vaccination: information for healthcare practitioners - GOV.UK (external site)**
 - **Meningococcal B: vaccine information for healthcare professionals - GOV.UK (external site)**
 - **Childhood immunisation: quick guide for parents of premature babies - GOV.UK (external site)**



Legal framework

- **Patient Group Directions (PGD) - Welsh Medicines Advice Service (external site)** PGD templates. Please note that these national PGD templates are not legal for use until adapted and authorised by the relevant Local Health Board.



Check your knowledge: training and learning

- Immunisation training information and changes to the childhood immunisation schedule slide sets are provided on the **training Resources and Events page**
- If you are a registrant new to immunising you will need to complete the Immunisation programme for new immunisers, available here **immunisation eLearning - Public Health Wales** and the **competency assessment tool (external site)**

What else do I need to do?

Share learning with all those involved in the programme, including reception staff booking appointments. Consider using the changes to the childhood immunisation schedule slide sets to run a training and information session for colleagues.

Order or download **free** resources:

To order **free** resources such as posters and patient information leaflets, to support vaccination clinics, visit: **Health Information Resources - Public Health Wales**

Where else can I find support?

For vaccine contacts in your health board, visit: **Health Board vaccine team contact**



Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives