

The Australian Immunisation Register

What is the Australian Immunisation Register?

The Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) is an online national register which records vaccines given to all people in Australia. This includes vaccines that are under the National Immunisation Program (NIP), COVID-19 vaccines, and vaccines that are given privately.

Health care providers working in residential aged care that have completed the required training to carry out vaccination services, can review a resident's vaccination record and record a resident's vaccination event in AIR.

Why use the Australian Immunisation Register?

AIR provides an efficient way for residential aged care home (RACH) health care workers to record vaccination events which can later be viewed by other health practitioners involved in the care of a resident. RACH health care workers can immediately see a resident's immunisation history to check for any overdue vaccinations against the NIP.

Recording vaccinations to the AIR also means that other providers have access to more reliable vaccination histories of their patients, improves the reliability of the national dataset, and enhances monitoring of immunisation coverage by public health administrators.

Under current legislation, it is mandatory to record to the AIR all NIP administered vaccinations including COVID-19 and influenza, within 24 hours and no more than 10 working days after the vaccination. Civil penalties apply to providers for non-compliance.

The use of AIR is an important enabler of team-based care. AIR automatically shares immunisation events to a resident's My Health Record (MHR). This means that any health provider involved in the care of a resident, such as GP or specialist, can view the resident's immunisation history (and other shared health summaries) in MHR.

Benefits of using AIR for healthcare providers in residential aged care:

Health care providers can:

- Easily record vaccinations as they are administered.
- Efficiently check a resident's vaccination history.
- Identify residents who are overdue for their vaccines.
- Avoid unnecessary re-vaccinations.
- Generate vaccination reports by provider, type and route of administration.
- Reduce the impact of vaccine-preventable outbreaks by enhancing timely immunity.
- Reduce administrative burden by automating recording onto AIR via conformant clinical software.

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Benefits for residents

Vaccinations are important for older people. Vaccinations can prevent many diseases that can cause serious health problems that could lead to the need to go to hospital or even death. For COVID-19, vaccination remains the most effective protection from severe illness, hospitalisation, and death.

Recording vaccinations in AIR benefits residents by:

- Assisting residents to receive the right vaccinations at the right time in-line with the NIP.
- Providing a platform for health care providers to access vaccination history which doesn't rely on the resident's memory.

Elements to consider when planning to use AIR

The resource section below provides a range of links to support RACH staff to access and use the AIR.

To use AIR there are processes a RACH needs to consider:

System compatibility

- 1 Some clinical software might allow automatic recording onto the AIR. If your software doesn't, you are still able to use AIR to record immunisation by using PRODA.

Compliance with legislation

- 2 This includes mandatory recording, and educational requirements.

Access

- 3 Immunising nurses will need PRODA and HPOS to be able to access and record to AIR. Individuals can observe how to register for the HI service, get a PRODA account and access HPOS. You may require support from senior management for organisational level processes.

Learning & Education

- 4 Process level information about how to access and use AIR, PRODA, HPOS and more.

Refer to the resources on the next page for specific guidance on each of the above considerations.

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Resources

Acronyms

ADHA Australian Digital Health Agency
CSP Contracted Service Provider
HI Health Identifier
HPOS Health Professional online services

MHR My Health Record
NASH National Authentication Service for Health
PK Public Key
PRODA Provider Digital Access

Checklists & Overviews [About AIR - Services Australia overview](#)
[Using AIR – DOHAC overview](#)
[Accessing AIR - Services Australia](#)

1. **System Compatibility** [Conformant software for AIR and other services](#)

2. **Compliance with legislation** [Mandatory reporting](#)
[Australian Immunisation Register Act 2015](#)
[AIR Amendment \(reporting bill\) 2020](#)
[Immunisation education requirements](#)

3. **Setting up Access** Register for PRODA as an [individual](#) or [organisation](#)
Register for HI service as [individual](#) or [organisation](#)
[Link](#) your healthcare identifiers to HPOS
[Access HPOS](#) as an individual or on behalf of an organisation

4. **Learning** [Managing records on AIR](#)
Identifying patients | Recording events | Updating events
[Services Australia Health Professional Education Resources](#)
AIR | PRODA | HPOS | Provider Portal | MyMedicare & More
[Immunisation provider information and resources](#)
General information for the WA context