

Table 1.3.7: Minimum age for the first dose of vaccine in exceptional circumstances*

Vaccine	Minimum age for first dose in exceptional circumstances	Minimum age accepted as valid by ACIR
DTPa	6 weeks	6 weeks
Poliomyelitis (IPV)	6 weeks	6 weeks
Hepatitis A (Indigenous children in NT, QLD, SA & WA only)	12 months	12 months
Hepatitis B	6 weeks	6 weeks
Hib (PRP-OMP)	6 weeks	6 weeks
Hib (PRP-T)	6 weeks	6 weeks
MenCCV	6 weeks [†]	12 months
MMR	9 months [‡]	11 months
Pneumococcal (7vPCV)	6 weeks	6 weeks
Rotavirus	6 weeks	not stated
Varicella	9 months [§] (Varilrix) 12 months [^] (Varivax)	not stated

* Exceptional circumstances may include infants/children being vaccinated before overseas travel, or opportunistic vaccination following early attendance to a provider. These ages may differ from routinely recommended ages of administration under the NIP.

† If 2 doses of MenCCV are given before 12 months of age, then a booster dose should be given at 12 months of age (see Chapter 3.12, *Meningococcal disease*).

‡ MMR vaccine may be given from 9 months of age if in contact with case, but dose *must* be repeated at 12 months of age.

§ If a child receives varicella vaccine at <12 months of age, a further dose should be given at 18 months of age.

^ Receipt of at least 1 dose of varicella vaccine is recommended from 12 months of age.

Table 1.3.6: Minimum dose intervals for NIP vaccines for children <8 years of age (table to be used in conjunction with Catch-up Worksheet)

Vaccine	Minimum interval between dose 1 & 2	Minimum interval between dose 2 & 3	Minimum interval between dose 3 & 4
DTPa*	4 weeks	4 weeks	6 months
Poliomyelitis (IPV)	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks [†]
Hepatitis A (Indigenous children in NT, QLD, SA & WA only)	6 months		
Hepatitis B			
If first dose given at birth or at ≤7 days after birth [‡]	4 weeks	8 weeks	8 weeks
If first dose is not given at birth or at >7 days after birth [§]	4 weeks	8 weeks	
Hib (PRP-OMP)	See Table 1.3.8 Hib vaccine catch-up		
Hib (PRP-T)			
Pneumococcal (7vPCV)	See Tables 1.3.9, 1.3.10, 1.3.11 Pneumococcal vaccine catch-up		
MenCCV [^]			
MMR [#]	4 weeks		
Rotavirus**	Rotarix	4 weeks	
	RotaTeq	4 weeks	4 weeks
Varicella	4 weeks		

* If DTPa is only available in combination with other antigens (eg. DTPa-IPV, DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib or DTPa-HepB-IPV), these formulations can be used where necessary for primary course or catch-up doses in children <8 years of age.

† If the 3rd dose of IPV is given after 4 years of age, a 4th dose is not required. However, if using a combination vaccine, it is acceptable to receive a 4th dose.

‡ If dose given at birth or within 7 days of birth (considered dose 1 for this table), then 3 subsequent doses should be given.

§ If dose 1 is not given at birth or within 7 days of birth, then it should be given at 2 months of age, followed by a further 2 doses.

[^] The schedule is a single dose given at 12 months of age. Alternative schedules are available for children <12 months of age (see Chapter 3.12, *Meningococcal disease*).

[#] MMR vaccine may be given from 9 months of age if in contact with case, but dose *must* be repeated at 12 months of age.

** Consult Chapter 3.18, *Rotavirus*, Table 3.18.1 for upper age limits for administration of rotavirus vaccines. Catch-up is *not* recommended.