

Dosage of Panvax H1N1 vaccine for children aged 6 months to 9 years

Age	Dose	Formulation	Number of doses
6 months - 35 months	0.25ml (7.5µg)	Panvax H1N1 Junior prefilled syringe or Panvax H1N1 multidose vial	2 doses at least 4 weeks apart
36 months – 9 years	0.5ml (15µg)	Panvax H1N1 multidose vial	2 doses at least 4 weeks apart
10 years and above	0.5ml (15µg)	Panvax H1N1 multidose vial	1 dose

How many doses of vaccine are required for children?

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has recommended two doses of vaccine be given to children aged 6 months to 9 years of age. These doses should be given at least 28 days apart.

Specifically, the dosages are:

- Children aged 6-35 months: Two doses of 0.25mL per dose (7.5 micrograms) at least 28 days apart
- Children aged 36 months-9years: Two doses of 0.5mL per dose (15 micrograms) at least 28 days apart
- Children 10 years and over (including adults): One dose of 0.5mL (15 micrograms)

Children aged less than 6 months should not get the vaccine as it is not registered for use in children under this age. Very young babies do not develop a good level of immunity after influenza vaccination.

Children should not be given Panvax® H1N1 vaccine or any other influenza vaccines if they:

- have experienced anaphylaxis, a severe form of a generalised allergic reaction, following a previous dose of any influenza vaccine;
- have experienced anaphylaxis following receipt of any vaccine component, including neomycin or polymyxin antibiotics; or
- have a severe allergy to eggs, including children who have experienced swelling of the lips or tongue, or had acute breathing problems or convulsions, after eating eggs.

Children with milder forms of egg allergy may be able to be vaccinated and should talk to their health care provider about the vaccine.

Children who are moderately or severely ill with a fever should usually wait until they recover before getting the vaccine. Children with a mild illness can usually get the vaccine.

Links:

The Commonwealth government health emergency web site has FAQs to assist:

<http://www.healthemergency.gov.au/internet/healthemergency/publishing.nsf/Content/kids-vaccine-qna-toc>