



24–30 APRIL 2026

WORLD IMMUNISATION WEEK

World Immunisation Week raises awareness about the power of vaccines to protect people of all ages against preventable diseases. It highlights the importance of ensuring that everyone has access to life-saving immunisation.

Why is it important?

Immunisation is one of the most successful and cost-effective public health interventions in history. Vaccines:

- Protect people from serious diseases such as measles, polio, tetanus, influenza and HPV
- Prevent outbreaks in schools, workplaces and communities
- Protect vulnerable people, including babies, the elderly and those with weakened immune systems
- Reduce hospital admissions and long-term complications
- Support healthier families and stronger economies

When vaccination rates drop, preventable diseases can quickly return.



Did you know?

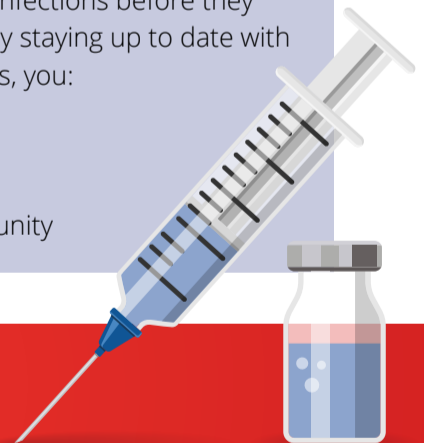
- Vaccines save about 4–5 million lives every year.
- Immunisation prevents more than 20 life-threatening diseases.
- Over the past 50 years, vaccines have saved millions of lives globally.
- Millions of children worldwide still miss routine vaccines, leaving them at risk.



Why immunisation matters

Vaccines work by training your immune system to recognise and fight infections before they cause serious illness. By staying up to date with recommended vaccines, you:

- Protect yourself
- Protect your family
- Protect your community



What vaccines does the Scheme offer?

The Scheme's Preventative Care Benefits cover the following vaccines at cost or the Scheme Rate, whichever is less (including pharmacist administration fee):

- **Influenza (flu)** – one vaccine per beneficiary per year.
- **Pneumococcal vaccine** (Strep. Pneumoniae infections including pneumonia and meningitis) – one vaccine per beneficiary 18 and older, every five years.
- **Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)** – two doses per beneficiary between 9 and 14 years and 3 doses per beneficiary between 15 and 26 years.
- **Pertussis (whooping cough)** – one vaccine per beneficiary between 4 and 64 years every 5 years.
- **Childhood immunisations** – limited to immunisations prescribed by the South African Expanded Programme of Immunisations plus Chicken Pox, Hepatitis B, Meningitis and Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccines available in the private health sector. Subject to managed care protocols.



Contact your Scheme: ☎ 0860 002 109 | @mbmed@medscheme.co.za
or scan the QR Code to visit the MBMed Member Portal