

*Varicella (chickenpox) is a highly contagious infection caused by the varicella-zoster virus, which is a member of the herpes group of viruses. It is usually a mild disease that lasts a short time in healthy children. However, it can be severe in adults and may cause serious or even fatal complications in people of any age.*

*Chickenpox is highly contagious, and is spread through the air, by coughing, sneezing or direct contact with people who are infected. About 90% of unvaccinated people who have not previously had chickenpox will become infected when they come into contact with the virus.*

**Students must provide evidence of either a completed course of Varicella vaccines OR a copy of positive serology.**

### **What is the Vaccine Schedule?**

- For children under the age of 14 years: 1 dose
- Over the age of 14 years: 2 doses at least a month apart

### **How do I find my evidence for Vaccines?**

You can provide several forms of evidence:

- A copy of your Baby/Immunisation Booklet outlining the dates of vaccines
- Letter from GP outlining dates of vaccines
- Document from the [Australian Childhood Immunisation Register](#) (ACIR) or the Vaccination Information and Vaccination Administration System (VIVAS) database.

Contact details for ACIR and VIVAS is on the [Fit for Placement](#) website.

### **What is Serology?**

Serologic tests are blood tests that look for antibodies in your blood.

### **Do I need to provide a copy of my Serology?**

Only if you don't have evidence of a completed course of vaccines.

*For more information you can contact the Fit for Placement Office on: 07 5552 9480 or [fitforplacement@griffith.edu.au](mailto:fitforplacement@griffith.edu.au)*

*Visit the [Fit for Placement](#) Website*