

Halt Flu Vaccines to Children

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AUSTRALIA'S chief medical officer has told doctors to stop giving the seasonal flu vaccine to children.

The advice follows concerns the vaccine is adversely affecting children's health.

"We suggest doctors and health professionals vaccinating children don't use the seasonal flu vaccine for the moment, until we can get the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) to investigate this in more detail," Professor Jim Bishop told ABC TV.

He said the concerns stemmed from a significant rise in the number of children developing a fever after receiving the vaccine.

Western Australian Health Minister Kim Hames yesterday suspended the state's free flu vaccination program for children under five, after some recipients went into a febrile convulsion - a fit caused by a high temperature.

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