

## *Certificate of Completion*

THIS CERTIFIES THAT  
**CALEB FELLOWES**

has participated in the following education session:  
**Vaccine Preventable Disease: Diphtheria**

Presenter The Nursing CPD Institute

In this session you will:

- Gain information regarding the epidemiology of Diphtheria
- Learn the clinical features associated with this condition
- Gain knowledge regarding the currently available vaccines in Australia
- Attain information regarding vaccine precautions, considerations including special groups of individuals and the protocol for the vaccine administration

Completed on

**30 April 2019 (duration of 1 hour/s)**

**This equates to 1 CPD Hour/s (Continuing Professional Development)**

### REFLECTION:

Diphtheria is an acute illness caused by toxigenic strains of *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*, a Gram-positive, non-sporing, non-capsulate bacillus.

The exotoxin produced by *C. diphtheriae* acts locally on the mucous membranes of the respiratory tract or, less commonly, on damaged skin, to produce an adherent pseudomembrane. Systemically, the toxin acts on cells of the myocardium, nervous system and adrenals. Life-threatening complications from diphtheria toxin include myocarditis and neuritis (usually affecting motor nerves). The case-fatality rate in the last three decades has been reported as up to 16%.



Cheryl Dezotti

Director of the Nursing CPD Institute

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Nursing CPD Institute

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