

Back to school/childhood immunizations



Childhood Vaccine Schedule

When to Vaccinate	What Vaccine	Why
Birth (or any age if not previously immunized)	Hepatitis B (HBV) (three doses)— HepB	Prevents hepatitis B, a type of liver disease that can lead to liver scarring, cancer, or failure
1 to 4 Months	HepB	
2 Months	Diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis— DTaP	Prevents: Diphtheria , a serious bacterial infection that can lead to breathing problems Tetanus , a bacterial illness that causes a painful tightening of the muscles, such as “lock jaw” Pertussis (Whooping cough), an infectious bacterial disease that causes uncontrollable coughing
	Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine (three doses)— Hib	Protects against illnesses like meningitis, pneumonia, and infections of the blood, bones, and joints
	Inactivated poliovirus vaccine— IPV	Protects against polio, a contagious, paralyzing, and life-threatening disease
	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine— PCV	Protects against the pneumococcal bacterium, the leading cause of infections such as pneumonia, blood infections, and bacterial meningitis
	Rotavirus vaccine (three doses)— RV	Protects against severe diarrhea, mostly in babies and young children
4 Months	DTaP, Hib, IPV, PCV, RV	
6 Months and Annually	Influenza – Flu vaccine or flu “shot” (two doses, one month apart, for those under nine years old getting a flu shot for the first time)	Protects against seasonal flu
6 Months	DTaP, Hib, PCV, RV	
6 – 18 Months	Hep B, IPV	
12 – 15 Months	Hib, PCV	
	Measles, mumps and rubella (German measles) vaccine— MMR	A “3 in 1” vaccine against three potentially life-threatening diseases: Measles , a virus that causes a rash, cough, runny nose, eye irritation, and fever Mumps , a virus causing fever, headache, and swollen glands; can lead to deafness, meningitis, swollen testicles or ovaries, and death in some cases Rubella , also known as German measles. A generally mild disease, it can cause serious birth defects in the child of a woman who becomes infected while pregnant
	Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine— Var Note: In February 2008, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) changed its recommendations. It had recommended giving the MMR and Varicella vaccines at the same time. Now it does not express a preference for giving them separately or at the same time.	Protects against chickenpox, a usually mild infectious disease characterized by an uncomfortable, itchy rash, fever, and headache; in adults, can cause shingles and other serious problems
12 – 23 Months	Hepatitis A vaccine (two doses)— Hep A	Protects against a type of liver disease
15 – 18 Months	DTaP	
4 – 6 Years	DTaP, MMR, IPV, Var	
11 – 12 Years	Human papillomavirus vaccine— HPV	In young girls, prevents most cases of genital warts and cervical cancer
	Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis booster— Tdap	
	Meningitis vaccine— MCV	Protects against meningitis, an inflammation of the thin tissue surrounding the brain and spinal cord; there are several types of meningitis
College Entrants	Meningitis vaccine for college aged— MCV4	Protects against meningitis, recommended for previously unvaccinated college entrants planning to live in dormitories.

(Sources: medlineplus.gov; U.S. Centers for Disease Control; CDC Advisory Committee on Vaccine Practices)

For more information on immunization schedules, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines>

