

Vaccinations for Preteens and Teens

Getting immunized is a lifelong, life-protecting job. Make sure you and your healthcare provider keep your immunizations up to date. Check to be sure you've had all the vaccinations you need.

Vaccine	Do you need it?
Chickenpox (varicella)	Yes! Chickenpox vaccine is usually given in early childhood. If you haven't been vaccinated and haven't had chickenpox, you need 2 doses of this vaccine.
COVID-19	Yes! You need to be vaccinated, even if you have had COVID-19 in the past. Which vaccine you need now depends on current CDC recommendations.
Hepatitis A (HepA)	Yes! HepA is recommended for all people age 1–18 years. The HepA series is usually given in early childhood. If you started a series, but didn't complete it, you can finish from where you left off.
Hepatitis B (HepB)	Yes! HepB is recommended for all people age 0–18 years. The HepB series is usually given in infancy. If you started a series, but didn't complete it, you can finish from where you left off.
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib)	Maybe. If you haven't been vaccinated against Hib and have a high-risk condition (such as a non-functioning spleen), you need this vaccine.
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	Yes! HPV vaccine is routinely given to preteens at age 11 or 12 but may be started at age 9. Older teens who haven't been vaccinated will need 2 or 3 doses. This vaccine protects against HPV, a common cause of several types of cancer.
Influenza (Flu)	Yes! To stay healthy and active, you need an annual influenza vaccination every fall or winter for the rest of your life.
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	Yes! MMR vaccine is usually given in early childhood. You need 2 doses of MMR vaccine if you have not already received them.
Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY, MenABCWY)	Yes! All preteens and teens need 2 doses of MenACWY vaccine, the first at age 11–12 years and the second at age 16 years. If you are a first-year college student living in a residence hall, you need a dose of MenACWY if you never received it or received it when you were younger than 16. If you have an on-going high-risk health condition, you will also need boosters. Ask your healthcare provider if you have a risk factor. A combination MenABCWY is an option when both MenACWY and MenB vaccines are needed.
Meningococcal B (MenB, MenABCWY)	Yes! Teens who want to be protected from meningitis type B should receive 2 doses of MenB vaccine starting at age 16. Preteens and teens with certain risk conditions should be vaccinated also, and receive boosters if their risk is ongoing. Ask your healthcare provider if you have a risk factor. A combination MenABCWY is an option when both MenACWY and MenB vaccines are needed.
Pneumococcal	Maybe. Do you have an ongoing health condition? If so, check with your healthcare provider to find out if you need one or two types of pneumococcal vaccines.
Polio (IPV)	Yes! Polio vaccine is usually given in early childhood. You need a series of at least 3 doses of polio vaccine if you have not already received them.
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	Maybe. If you become pregnant, to protect your infant from RSV, either you should be vaccinated with Abrysvo (Pfizer) vaccine, or the infant should be given RSV preventive antibody (Beyfortus by Sanofi).
Tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough (Tdap; Td)	Yes! All preteens and teens need a dose of Tdap vaccine, a vaccine that protects you from tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough (pertussis). After getting a dose of Tdap, you will need a Tdap or tetanus-diphtheria (Td) shot every ten years. If you become pregnant, you will need another dose of Tdap during every pregnancy, preferably during the third trimester.

Will you be traveling outside the United States? Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website at wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list for travel information, or consult a travel clinic.

