

IMMUNIZATION TIME


August is here, and so with a sigh of relief and a tinge of sadness at the end of summer, we prepare to send our children back to school. With a school checklist in hand, parents shop for new school clothes, purchase school supplies and update their child’s immunization schedule.


According to the Center for Disease Control, “Vaccines have eradicated smallpox, eliminated wild poliovirus in the U.S., and significantly reduced the number of cases of measles, diphtheria, rubella, pertussis, and other diseases”. Making sure that your child has received their vaccinations on time will not only benefit your child’s health but also the health of friends, community and classmates. Most states have mandatory vaccinations for attending school. To check your states requirements go to www.nvic.org. If you have concerns about possible side effects from a certain vaccines, you can contact The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (1-800-822-7967).


Remember that vaccines are not only for infant and children, but also for college age student and adults who may require boosters for tetanus and other diseases such as meningitis. If you are unable to find your immunization records, call your local health department for assistance.

FIGURE 2. Recommended immunization schedule for persons aged 7 through 18 years — United States, 2009 (for those who fall behind or start late, see the schedule below and the catch-up schedule [Table])

Vaccine ▼	Age ►	7–10 years	11–12 years	13–18 years
Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis ¹	<i>see footnote 1</i>		Tdap	Tdap
Human Papillomavirus ²	<i>see footnote 2</i>		HPV (3 doses)	HPV Series
Meningococcal ³		MCV	MCV	MCV
Influenza ⁴		Influenza (Yearly)		
Pneumococcal ⁵		PPSV		
Hepatitis A ⁶		HepA Series		
Hepatitis B ⁷		HepB Series		
Inactivated Poliovirus ⁸		IPV Series		
Measles, Mumps, Rubella ⁹		MMR Series		
Varicella ¹⁰		Varicella Series		

 Range of recommended ages

 Catch-up immunization

 Certain high-risk groups



For additional information, call a Personal Health Counselor at 800-327-7272.

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