

Guide to Contraindications and Precautions to Commonly Used Vaccines in Adults

Vaccine	Contraindications	Precautions ¹
Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap) Tetanus, diphtheria (Td)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component For Tdap only: Encephalopathy (e.g., coma, decreased level of consciousness, prolonged seizures) not attributable to another identifiable cause within 7 days of administration of previous dose of DTP/DaP/Tdap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within 6 weeks after a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine History of Arthus-type hypersensitivity reaction following a previous dose of tetanus and/or diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine: defer vaccination until at least 10 years have elapsed since the previous dose For Tdap only: Progressive or unstable neurologic disorder, uncontrolled seizures or progressive encephalopathy: defer vaccination with Tdap until a treatment regimen has been established and the condition has stabilized. For Td only: Unstable neurologic condition.
Human papilloma-virus (HPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Pregnancy
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Pregnancy Known severe immunodeficiency (e.g., hematologic and solid tumors; receiving chemotherapy; congenital immunodeficiency; long-term immunosuppressive therapy³; or patients with HIV infection who are severely immunocompromised) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Recent (within 11 months) receipt of antibody-containing blood product (specific interval depends on product⁴) History of thrombocytopenia or thrombocytopenic purpura
Varicella (Var)²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Substantial suppression of cellular immunity⁴ Pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Recent (within 11 months) receipt of antibody-containing blood product (specific interval depends on product⁴) Receipt of specific antivirals (i.e., acyclovir, famciclovir, or valacyclovir) 24 hours before vaccination, if possible; delay resumption of these antiviral drugs for 14 days after vaccination.
Influenza, injectable trivalent (TIV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component, including egg protein 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever History of GBS within 6 wks of previous influenza vaccine
Influenza, live attenuated (LAIV)²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component, including egg protein Pregnancy Known severe immunodeficiency (e.g., hematologic and solid tumors; receiving chemotherapy; congenital immunodeficiency; long-term immunosuppressive therapy³; or patients with HIV infection who are severely immunocompromised) Certain chronic medical conditions⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever History of GBS within 6 wks of previous influenza vaccine Receipt of specific antivirals (i.e., amantadine, rimantadine, zanamivir, or oseltamivir) 48 hours before vaccination. Avoid use of these antiviral drugs for 14 days after vaccination. Close contact with an immunosuppressed person when the person requires protective isolation
Pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
Hepatitis A (HepA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Pregnancy
Hepatitis B (HepB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
Meningococcal, conjugate (MCV4) Meningococcal, polysaccharide (MPSV4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever <p>For MCV4 only: History of GBS (if not at extremely high risk for meningococcal disease)</p>
Zoster (Zos)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Substantial suppression of cellular immunity⁴ Pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Receipt of specific antivirals (i.e., acyclovir, famciclovir, or valacyclovir) 24 hours before vaccination, if possible; delay resumption of these antiviral drugs for 14 days after vaccination.

Footnotes

- Events or conditions listed as precautions should be reviewed carefully. Benefits of and risks for administering a specific vaccine to a person under these circumstances should be considered. If the risk from the vaccine is believed to outweigh the benefit, the vaccine should not be administered. If the benefit of vaccination is believed to outweigh the risk, the vaccine should be administered.
- LAIV, MMR, and varicella vaccines can be administered on the same day. If not administered on the same day, these vaccines should be separated by at least 28 days.

- Substantially immunosuppressive steroid dose is considered to be 2 weeks or more of daily receipt of 20 mg or more (or 2 mg/kg body weight or more) of prednisone or equivalent.
- For details, see CDC. "General Recommendations on Immunization: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)" at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/acip-list.htm
- For details, see CDC. "Prevention and Control of Influenza: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)" at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/acip-list.htm.