

# Vaccinations for Adults without a Spleen

The table below shows which vaccinations you should have to protect your health if you do not have a functioning spleen. Make sure you and your healthcare provider keep your vaccinations up to date.

Vaccine	Do you need it?
<b>Hepatitis A</b> (HepA)	<b>Maybe.</b> You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor for hepatitis A* or simply want to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is usually given in 2 doses, 6–12 months apart.
<b>Hepatitis B</b> (HepB)	<b>Maybe.</b> You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor for hepatitis B* or simply want to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is given in 2 or 3 doses, depending on the brand.
<b>Hib</b> ( <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b)	<b>Yes!</b> You are at increased risk for Hib disease because you do not have a functioning spleen. If you have never received Hib vaccination (or don't know if you received it), you should receive 1 dose now.
<b>Human papillomavirus</b> (HPV)	<b>Yes!</b> You need this vaccine if you are a woman age 26 or younger or a man age 21 or younger. Men age 22 through 26 with a risk condition* also need vaccination. All other men age 22 through 26 who want to be protected from HPV may receive it too. The vaccine is usually given in 3 doses over a 6-month period.
<b>Influenza</b>	<b>Yes!</b> You need a dose every fall (or winter) for your protection and for the protection of others around you.
<b>Measles, mumps, rubella</b> (MMR)	<b>Maybe.</b> You need at least 1 dose of MMR vaccine if you were born in 1957 or later. You may also need a second dose.
<b>Meningococcal ACWY</b> (MenACWY)	<b>Yes!</b> You are at increased risk for meningococcal disease because you do not have a functioning spleen. If you have never received MenACWY vaccine, you should receive 2 doses separated by 8 weeks, then a booster dose every 5 years thereafter.
<b>Meningococcal B</b> (MenB)	<b>Yes!</b> You are at increased risk for meningococcal type B disease because you do not have a functioning spleen. You will need to complete a series of MenB vaccine, 2 or 3 doses, depending on the brand.
<b>Pneumococcal</b> (Pneumovax 23, PPSV23; Prevnar 13, PCV13)	<b>Yes!</b> Both types of pneumococcal vaccine (Prevnar and Pneumovax) are recommended for you because you do not have a functioning spleen. If you haven't received both vaccines, call your healthcare provider and schedule them now. The dose of Prevnar is given first, followed by 1 dose of Pneumovax at least 8 weeks later. You will need a booster dose of Pneumovax 5 years after your first dose. Additionally, if you received 1 or 2 doses of Pneumovax when you were younger than age 65, you will need another dose at age 65 or older, if at least 5 years have passed since your previous dose of Pneumovax.
<b>Tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough (pertussis)</b> (Tdap, Td)	<b>Yes!</b> If you have not received a dose of Tdap during your lifetime, you need to get a Tdap shot now (the adult whooping cough vaccine). And all women need to get a dose during each pregnancy. After that, you need a Td booster dose every 10 years. Consult your healthcare provider if you haven't had at least 3 tetanus and diphtheria toxoid-containing shots sometime in your life or if you have a deep or dirty wound.
<b>Varicella</b> (Chickenpox)	<b>Maybe.</b> If you've never had chickenpox, were never vaccinated, or were vaccinated but received only 1 dose, talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need this vaccine.*
<b>Zoster</b> (shingles)	<b>Yes!</b> If you are age 50 or older, you should get the 2-dose series of the Shingrix brand of shingles vaccine, even if you already were vaccinated with Zostavax.

\* Consult your healthcare provider to determine your level of risk for infection and your need for this vaccine.

**Are you planning to travel outside the United States?** Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website at [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list) for travel information, or consult a travel clinic.