

Vaccinations for Pregnant Women

The table below shows which vaccinations you should have to protect your health when you are pregnant. Make sure you and your healthcare provider keep your vaccinations up to date.

| Vaccine | Do you need it during your pregnancy? |
|--|--|
| Hepatitis A (HepA) | Maybe. You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor for hepatitis A virus infection* or simply want to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is usually given in 2 doses, 6 months apart. It's safe to get this vaccine during pregnancy. |
| Hepatitis B (HepB) | Maybe. You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor for hepatitis B virus infection* or simply want to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is usually given in 3 doses, over a 6-month period. It's safe to get this vaccine during pregnancy. It's important, too, that your newborn baby gets started on his or her hepatitis B vaccination series before leaving the hospital. |
| Hib (<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b) | Maybe. Some adults with certain high-risk conditions need vaccination with Hib vaccine.* |
| Human papillomavirus (HPV) | No. This vaccine is not recommended to be given during pregnancy, but if you inadvertently receive it, this is not a cause for concern. HPV vaccine is recommended for all women age 26 years or younger, so make sure you are vaccinated before or after your pregnancy. The vaccine is given in 3 doses over a 6-month period. |
| Influenza | Yes! You need a flu shot every fall (or winter) for your protection and for the protection of your baby and others around you. It's safe to get the vaccine at any time during your pregnancy. |
| Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) | No. The MMR vaccine is not recommended to be given during pregnancy, but if you inadvertently receive it, this is not a cause for concern. At least 1 dose of MMR vaccine is recommended for you if you were born in 1957 or later. (And you may need a second dose.*) It's best for you (and any future baby) to receive the protection vaccination provides before trying to conceive. |
| Meningococcal (MCV4, MPSV4) | Maybe. You need this vaccine if you have one of several health conditions, or if you are 19–21 and a first-year college student living in a residence hall and you either have never been vaccinated or were vaccinated before age 16.* It's safe to get the vaccine during pregnancy. |
| Pneumococcal (PCV13 [conjugate vaccine]; PPSV23 [polysaccharide vaccine]) | Maybe. You need 1 or both of these vaccines if you have a certain risk factor for pneumococcal disease, such as diabetes. If you're unsure of your risk, talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need this vaccine.* It's safe to get the vaccine during pregnancy. |
| Tetanus, diphtheria, & whooping cough (pertussis) (Tdap, Td) | Yes! Women who are pregnant need a dose of Tdap vaccine (adult whooping cough vaccine) during each pregnancy, preferably during the third trimester. After that, you'll need a Td booster dose every 10 years. Talk to your healthcare provider if you haven't had at least 3 tetanus- and diphtheria-containing shots sometime in your life or if you have a deep or dirty wound. |
| Varicella (chickenpox) (VAR) | No.* Varicella vaccine is not recommended to be given during pregnancy, but if you inadvertently receive it, this is not a cause for concern. If you haven't been vaccinated or had chickenpox, it's best for you (and any future baby) to be protected with the vaccine before trying to conceive, or after you've completed your pregnancy. The vaccine is given in 2 doses 4–8 weeks apart. |

* 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? If so, you may need additional vaccines. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides information to assist travelers and their healthcare providers in deciding which vaccines, medications, and other measures are necessary to prevent illness and injury during international travel. Visit CDC's website at wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list, or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636). You may also consult a travel clinic or your healthcare provider.