

Before You Vaccinate Adults, Consider Their “H-A-L-O”!

What is H-A-L-O? As shown below, it's an easy-to-use chart that can help you make an *initial* decision about vaccinating a patient based on four factors – the patient's **Health condition, Age, Lifestyle, and Occupation**. In some situations, though, you can vaccinate a patient without considering these factors. For example, all adults need a dose of Tdap as well as annual vaccination against influenza, and any adult who wants protection against hepatitis A or hepatitis B can be vaccinated. Others vaccines, such as HPV, may be given based on shared clinical decision-making (SCDM) between

you and your patient. Note that not all patients who mention one or more **H-A-L-O** factors will need to be vaccinated. Before you make a *definitive* decision about vaccinating your patient, it's important that you refer to the more detailed information found in the Immunization Action Coalition's "Summary of Recommendations for Adult Immunization," located at www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2011.pdf or the complete vaccine recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html.

How do I use H-A-L-O?
 Though some H-A-L-O factors can be easily determined (e.g., age, pregnancy), you will need to ask your patient about the presence or absence of others. Once you determine which of the factors apply, scan down each column of the chart to see at a glance which vaccinations are possibly indicated.

H-A-L-O checklist of factors that indicate a possible need for adult vaccination

Vaccine	H Health Factors								A Age Factors	L Lifestyle Factors							O Occupational or other factors					
	Pregnant	Certain chronic diseases	Immunosuppressed (including HIV)	History of STD	Asplenia	Cochlear implant candidate/recipient	Organ transplant (for stem cell transplant, see ACIP's Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization)	CSF leaks	Alcoholism	Born outside the U.S.	Men who have sex with men	Not in a long-term, mutually monogamous relationship	User of injecting or non-injecting drugs	Homelessness	International traveler	Close contact of international adoptee	Tobacco smoking	College students	Healthcare worker	Certain lab workers	People who live or work in an area of an outbreak	Adults in institutional settings (e.g., chronic care, correctional)
HepA		✓	✓						Anyone of any age who wants to be protected		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
HepB		✓	✓	✓					Anyone of any age who wants to be protected	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓
Hib		✓			✓																	
HPV									Routine through 26 yrs; based on SCDM* for 27–45 yrs													
IPV														✓					✓			
Influenza	Annual vaccination is recommended for all adults.....▶																					
Meningococcal ACWY		✓	✓		✓										✓			✓		✓	✓	
Meningococcal B		✓			✓				Based on SCDM for 16–23 yrs											✓	✓	
MMR			?						Routine 1 dose if born after 1956; 2nd dose for some					✓				✓	✓		✓	
PCV13		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		Based on SCDM* for 65 yrs and older and no health factors													
PPSV23		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	65 yrs and older								✓					
Tdap/Td	Tdap/Td boosters every 10 years for all adults; pregnant women should receive Tdap during each pregnancy (gestational weeks 27–36).....▶																					
Varicella**	Completion of a 2-dose series for non-pregnant adults through age 59 years and healthcare workers of any age who do not have evidence of immunity to varicella...▶																					
Zoster**									50 yrs and older													

* = SCDM (Shared Clinical Decision-Making); See ACIP recommendations on considerations for SCDM for HPV for adults 27–45 years and PCV13 for adults 65 and older.
 ? = Vaccination may be indicated depending on degree of immunosuppression.
 ** = Varicella is contraindicated and Shingrix is not recommended in people who are immunocompromised.