

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

**What is H-A-L-O?** It's an easy-to-use chart to help you make an *initial* decision about vaccinating a patient based on four factors – the patient's **Health, Age, Lifestyle, and Occupation**. 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, you should refer to the more detailed information found in the complete vaccine recommendations of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at [www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/index.html).

## 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							
	During pregnancy	Certain chronic diseases	Immunosuppressed (including HIV infection)	History of sexually transmitted diseases	Asplenia	Cochlear implant candidate/recipient	Organ transplant (for stem cell transplant, see ACIP's Best Practices Guidelines for Immunization)	Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak	Alcoholism					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., long-term care, correctional)
COVID-19	Refer to CDC adult immunization schedule <sup>1</sup> for current recommendations; recommendations of professional medical societies may differ.																								
HepA		✓	✓							Anyone of any age who wants to be protected			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	
HepB		✓	✓	✓						Routine through 59 yrs and based on risk factors for 60 yrs and older; may give to anyone 60+			✓	✓	✓		✓					✓			✓
Hib		✓			✓																				
HPV										Routine through 26 yrs; based on SCDM <sup>2</sup> for 27–45 yrs															
IPV										Recommended for any adult known or suspected of being unvaccinated							✓						✓		
Influenza	Annual vaccination is recommended for all adults ..... ▶																								
Meningococcal ACWY		✓	✓		✓												✓				✓		✓	✓	
Meningococcal B		✓			✓					Based on SCDM <sup>2</sup> for 16–23 yrs													✓	✓	
MMR				3						Routine 1 dose if born after 1956; 2nd dose for some							✓				✓	✓		✓	
Mpox <sup>4</sup>				✓									✓	✓									✓		
PCV15/PCV20/PCV21		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Routine for age 50 yrs and older; based on risk factors for 19–49 yrs									✓						
PPSV23	PPSV23 only recommended after an adult with an indication for PCV (see row above) has received PCV15; PPSV23 not needed after PCV20 or PCV21.																								
RSV	✓ <sup>5</sup>	✓	✓							Routine 1 dose for age 75 yrs and older; based on risk factors for 50–74 yrs															✓
Tdap/Td	Tdap/Td boosters every 10 years for all adults; pregnant women should receive Tdap during each pregnancy (gestational weeks 27–36) ..... ▶																								
Varicella <sup>6</sup>	Completion of a 2-dose series for non-pregnant adults without evidence of immunity to varicella (see immunization schedule for details of acceptable evidence of immunity) ..... ▶																								
Zoster		✓	✓				✓			Routine for 50+ yrs; for 19–49 yrs who are immunocompromised															

**NOTES**  
 1 = See CDC's Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/immz-schedules/downloads/adult/adult-combined-schedule.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/immz-schedules/downloads/adult/adult-combined-schedule.pdf)  
 2 = SCDM (Shared Clinical Decision-Making): See ACIP recommendations on considerations for SCDM for HPV for adults 27–45 yrs and for MenB for 16–23 yrs.  
 3 = Vaccination may be indicated depending on degree of immunosuppression.  
 4 = Post-exposure vaccination also recommended. Further evaluation for specific risks is required.  
 5 = Seasonal, one-time option for RSV vaccine (Abrysvo) at 32 through 36 wks 6 days gestation.  
 6 = Varicella is contraindicated in people with severe immunocompromise.

