Vaccinations for Men Who Have Sex with Men

The table below shows which vaccinations you should have to protect your health if you are a man who has sex with other men. Make sure you and your healthcare provider keep your vaccinations up to date.

Vaccine	Do you need it?
COVID-19	***Maybe.*** The risk of serious illness with COVID-19 increases as you get older and if you have other health conditions. Talk to your pharmacist or healthcare provider.
Hepatitis A (HepA)	***Yes!*** Men who have sex with men need this vaccine to provide protection against hepatitis A virus, a serious infection of the liver that can be fatal. The vaccine is usually given in 2 doses, 6–18 months apart.
Hepatitis B (HepB)	***Yes!*** Because you have sex with other men, you are at higher risk for hepatitis B. If you haven't had hepatitis B vaccination, you need to get a 2- or 3-dose series, depending on the brand. All adults should be screened for hepatitis B infection with a blood test at least once; talk with your healthcare provider.
Hib (*Haemophilus influenzae* type b)	***Maybe.*** Some adults with certain high-risk conditions* need vaccination with Hib. Talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need this vaccine.
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	***Yes!*** You should be vaccinated against HPV if you are age 26 or younger. Adults age 27 through 45 may also be vaccinated against HPV after a discussion with their healthcare provider.* The vaccine is usually given in 2 or 3 doses, depending on the age at which the first dose was given.
Influenza (Flu)	***Yes!*** You need to get vaccinated against influenza every fall or winter.
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	***Maybe.*** You need at least 1 dose of MMR if you were born in 1957 or later. You may also need a second dose.* Pregnant people and people with a severely weakened immune system should not get MMR.
Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY, MenABCWY)	***Maybe.*** You may need MenACWY vaccine if you have one of several health conditions* and boosters if your risk is ongoing. You need MenACWY if you are a first-year college student living in a residence hall and (1) you have not had a dose since turning 16, or (2) it has been more than 5 years since your last dose. Anyone age 19 through 21 can have a catch-up dose if they have not had one since turning 16. A combination MenABCWY is an option when both MenACWY and MenB are needed.
Meningococcal B (MenB, MenABCWY)	***Maybe.*** You may need MenB if you have one of several health conditions,* and boosters if your risk is ongoing. If you are age 16 through 23, you can discuss getting MenB vaccine with your healthcare provider, even if you don't have a high-risk condition. A combination MenABCWY is an option when both MenACWY and MenB are needed.
Mpox	***Maybe.*** You need the 2-dose series of mpox vaccine (Jynneos) if you are risk due to known or suspected exposure to someone with mpox or if you have certain sexual practices that increase your risk of exposure to mpox.* Talk with your healthcare provider.
Pneumococcal (PCV, PPSV23)	***Yes!*** All adults age 50 and older need pneumococcal vaccination. Adults younger than 50 with certain underlying health conditions or other risk factors* also need pneumococcal vaccination. Newer vaccines may be recommended now for people vaccinated in the past. Your healthcare provider can determine what vaccine, if any, you need.
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	***Yes!*** You should get this one-time vaccine if you are 75 years or older, or if you are between the ages of 50 and 74 and are at increased risk of severe RSV.* To protect infants from RSV, give a one-time dose of RSV vaccine during pregnancy or give the infant RSV preventive antibody.
Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap, Td)	***Yes!*** If you have never received a dose of Tdap, you need to get a Tdap shot now. After that, you need a Tdap or Td booster dose every 10 years. Consult your healthcare provider if you haven't had at least 3 tetanus- and diphtheria-toxoid containing shots in your life or if you have a deep or dirty wound.
Varicella (Chickenpox)	***Maybe.*** If you've never had chickenpox, never were vaccinated, or were vaccinated but only received 1 dose, talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need this vaccine.* People with a severely weakened immune system should not get varicella vaccine.
Zoster (Shingles)	***Yes!*** If you are age 19 or older and have a weakened immune system or are 50 or older, you should get a 2-dose series of the Shingrix brand of shingles vaccine.

* Consult your healthcare provider to determine 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 for travel information, or consult a travel clinic.