Get Adults' Vaccinations Back on Track

Tip sheet for providers on U.S. adult vaccines and tools to help adults catch up on needed vaccinations



At least 3 out of every 4 adults are missing one or more vaccines like tetanus (Td/Tdap), pneumococcal, shingles, and flu vaccines. In addition, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine was new in 2023, and pneumococcal, and COVID-19 vaccine recommendations continue to evolve. HPV, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and mpox vaccines are recommended for certain age and risk groups.

VACCINE	RECENT UPDATES TO RECOMMENDATIONS	BRAND NAME(S)	DOSING	RECOMMENDING ORGANIZATIONS
Hepatitis B	Everyone 19-59 years. ≥60 years who want vaccination or have high-risk indication. If HIV+, Heplisav-B preferred. ^{NIH}	Engerix-B, Heplisav-B, Recombivax HB, Twinrix (Hep A+B)	2- or 3-dose series depending on brand	CDC, AAFP, ACOG, ACP, NIH
Zoster (shingles)	Everyone ≥50 years. ≥19 years immunocompromised.	Shingrix	2-dose series	CDC, AAFP, ACOG, ACP
Pneumococcal	Everyone ≥50 years. ≥19–49 years immunocompromised or high-risk medical condition.	Vaxneuvance (PCV15), Prevnar 20 (PCV20), Capvaxive (PCV21), Pneumovax 23 (PPSV23)	Either PCV20 or PCV21 alone, or PCV15 then PPSV23 one year later	CDC, AAFP, ACOG, ACP
Influenza (flu)	Everyone 6 months and older, including during pregnancy.	Multiple brands*	Annual vaccination	CDC, AAFP, ACOG, ACP
Preferred flu vaccines for adults ≥65 years	≥65 years: give flu vaccines preferred by CDC for this age group. If not available, give any age-appropriate flu vaccine.	Fluad (adjuvanted), Fluzone High-Dose (inactivated), or Flublok (recombinant)	Annual vaccination	CDC, AAFP, ACOG, ACP
RSV	Everyone 75 years and older, and 50–74 years at increased risk. Pregnant people (only Abrysvo) at 32 through 36 weeks' gestation September–January (in most cases).	Arexvy, mRESVIA or Abrysvo	One dose only. No additional dose is currently recommended.	CDC, AAFP, ACOG, ACP
Tdap/Td	Complete 3-dose series if unvaccinated. One dose every 10 yrs and per wound care guidance.	TENIVAC (Td); Adacel or Boostrix (Tdap)	Complete 3-dose series if unvaccinated. One dose every 10 yrs and per wound care guidance.	CDC, AAFP, ACOG, ACP
COVID-19	≥ 19 yrs, including during pregnancy. Recommendations differ by organization.	Spikevax licensed for 6 month-64 yrs at increased risk severe COVID-19 and all 65+ yrs. Comirnaty licensed for 5-64 yrs at increased risk and all 65+ yrs. Mnexspike and Nuvaxovid licensed for 12-64 yrs at increased risk of severe COVID-19 and all 65+ yrs.	One dose any brand if previously vaccinated. Two doses Nuvaxovid or one dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine if no prior dose. 65+ yrs: one dose then 2nd dose ≥ 6 mo. Immunocompromised may get add'l doses(s) ≥ 2 mo apart.	CDC: No recommendation during pregnancy or 19-64 without 1+ high risk conditions. AAFP/ACOG/ACP: Recommend vaccinate all adults, including during pregnancy.

^{*}ACIP voted 6/26/25 to recommend against use of multi-dose vials that include thimerosal as a preservative. AAFP/ACOG/ACP express no preference in multi- vs single-dose formulations of flu vaccines.

Abbreviations: AAFP=American Academy of Family Physicians; ACOG=American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; ACP=American College of Physicians; CDC=Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; NIH=National Institutes of Health; PCV=pneumococcal conjugate vaccine; PPSV=pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine; RSV=respiratory syncytial virus; Td/Tdap=tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis.

- Tip: Utilize available resources for determining patients' vaccination needs
 All links are up-to-date as of August 7, 2025.
 - CDC vaccine schedules www.cdc.gov/vaccines
 - AAFP recommended U.S. vaccination schedules www.aafp.org/family-physician/patient-care/prevention-wellness/ immunizations-vaccines.html
 - ACOG Seasonal vaccine recommendations www.acog.org/news/news-releases/2025/08/acog-releases-updated-maternal-immunization-guidance-covid-influenza-rsv
 - ACP 2025 ACIP schedule endorsed November 2024. www.acpjournals.org/doi/10.7326/ANNALS-25-01576
 - American Pharmacists Association (APhA) statement on COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy www.pharmacist.com/APhA-Press-Releases/apha-withholds-endorsement-of-acip-adult-immunization-schedule
 - H-A-L-O (health, age, lifestyle, occupation) patient handout—Immunize.org www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3070.pdf
 - Clinical decision support in your jurisdiction's vaccine registry* www.izsummitpartners.org/benefits-of-iis-brochures
 - CDC Pneumococcal VaxAdvisor mobile app for pneumococcal vaccines www.cdc.gov/pneumococcal/hcp/vaccine-recommendations/app.html
 - CDC COVID-19 vaccine clinical guidance and resources www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html
 - ACIP Guidance on additional doses of 2024–2025 COVID-19 Vaccine for Adults Aged ≥65 Years and Persons Aged ≥6 Months with Moderate or Severe Immunocompromise (December 12, 2024) www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7349a2.htm
- Tip: Take advantage of health IT [e.g., electronic medical records (EMR), vaccine registries*] patient and provider reminder resources
 - Activate health alerts in EMR to remind providers about needed vaccines
 - Utilize clinical decision support and vaccine reminder tools in your vaccine registry* www.izsummitpartners.org/benefits-of-iis-brochures
 - Send text, email or other reminders to patients about needed vaccines
- Tip: Use standing orders to improve vaccination efficiency in your clinic www.immunize.org/standing-orders
- Tip: Give two or more needed vaccines at the same visit—coadministration how-to guide www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2030.pdf

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- CDC provider resources for adult vaccinations www.cdc.gov/vaccines-adults/index.html
- Immunize.org handouts for adults www.immunize.org/clinical/topic/adult-vaccination
- Vaccinating adults: a step-by-step guide www.immunize.org/wp-content/uploads/guide/pdfs/vacc-adults-entire.pdf
- ACOG vaccination resources www.acog.org/programs/immunization-for-women
- Adult vaccination coding and billing information www.izsummitpartners.org/naiis-workgroups/access-provider-workgroup/coding-and-billing
- Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in Adults and Adolescents With HIV. https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-adult-and-adolescent-opportunistic-infections/hepatitis-b-virus?view=full

Legislation from 2022

(Inflation Reduction Act) has key provisions that help

close longstanding gaps in vaccination coverage in

Medicare and Medicaid,

including no copayment

for vaccines.