

Contraindications and Precautions to Vaccines for Children and Adults

VACCINE	TRUE CONTRAINDICATIONS / PRECAUTIONS ¹	UNTRUE (Vaccines may be administered)
General for all routine vaccines, including DTaP, pediatric DT, adult Td, adolescent-adult Tdap, IPV, MMR, Hib, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, varicella, rotavirus, PCV, TIV, LAIV, PPSV, MCV4, MPSV4, HPV, and zoster	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component	→ Mild acute illness with or without fever → Mild-to-moderate local reaction (i.e., swelling, redness, soreness); low-grade or moderate fever after previous dose → Lack of previous physical examination in well-appearing person → Current antimicrobial therapy ¹⁰ → Convalescent phase of illness → Preterm birth (hepatitis B vaccine is an exception in certain circumstances) ² → Recent exposure to an infectious disease → History of penicillin allergy, other non-vaccine allergies, relatives with allergies, or receiving allergen extract immunotherapy
	Precaution → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTaP)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component → Encephalopathy (e.g., coma, decreased level of consciousness, prolonged seizures) not attributable to another identifiable cause within 7 days of administration of previous dose of DTP or DTaP	→ Temperature of <105°F (<40.5°C), fussiness, or mild drowsiness → Family history of seizures → Family history of sudden infant death syndrome → Family history of an adverse event after DTP or DTaP administration → Stable neurologic conditions (e.g., cerebral palsy, well-controlled seizures, or developmental delay)
	Precautions → Progressive or unstable neurologic disorder (including infantile spasms), uncontrolled seizures, or progressive encephalopathy until a treatment regimen has been established and the condition has stabilized → Temperature of 105°F or higher (40.5°C or higher) within 48 hours after vaccination with a previous dose of DTP or DTaP → Collapse or shock-like state (i.e., hypotonic hyporesponsive episode) within 48 hours after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP → Seizure 3 days or more after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP → Persistent, inconsolable crying lasting 3 or more hours within 48 hours after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP → Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within 6 weeks after a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Pediatric diphtheria-tetanus toxoid (DT) Adult tetanus-diphtheria toxoid (Td)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component	
	Precautions → GBS within 6 weeks after previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine → History of arthus-type hypersensitivity reactions after a previous dose of tetanus or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccines; defer vaccination until at least 10 years have elapsed since the last tetanus-toxoid containing vaccine → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Tetanus-reduced-diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis (Tdap)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component → Encephalopathy (e.g., coma, decreased level of consciousness, prolonged seizures) not attributable to another identifiable cause within 7 days of administration of previous dose of DTP, DTaP, or Tdap	→ Temperature of ≥105°F (≥40.5°C), mild drowsiness after a previous dose of DTP/DTaP → Collapse or shock-like state (i.e., hypotonic hyporesponsive episode) within 48 hours after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP → Seizure <3 days after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP → Persistent, inconsolable crying lasting 3 hours within 48 hours after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP → History of extensive limb swelling after DTP/DTaP/Td that is not an arthus-type reaction → Stable neurologic disorder → History of brachial neuritis → Latex allergy that is not anaphylactic
	Precautions → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever → GBS within 6 weeks after a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine → Progressive or unstable neurologic disorder, uncontrolled seizures, or progressive encephalopathy; defer vaccination until a treatment regimen has been established and the condition has stabilized → History of arthus-type hypersensitivity reactions after a previous dose of tetanus or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccines; defer vaccination until at least 10 years have elapsed since the last tetanus-toxoid containing vaccine	
Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component	→ Previous receipt of 1 or more doses of oral polio vaccine
	Precautions → Pregnancy → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) ^{4,6}	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component → Pregnancy → Known severe immunodeficiency (e.g., from hematologic and solid tumors, receipt of chemotherapy, congenital immunodeficiency, or long-term immunosuppressive therapy ⁵ or patients with human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] infection who are severely immunocompromised) ⁶	→ Positive tuberculin skin test → Simultaneous tuberculin skin testing ⁸ → Breast feeding → Pregnancy of recipient's mother or other close or household contact → Recipient is female of child-bearing age → Immunodeficient family member or household contact → Asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic HIV infection → Allergy to eggs
	Precautions → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever → Recent (within 11 months) receipt of antibody-containing blood product (specific interval depends on product) ⁷ → History of thrombocytopenia or thrombocytopenic purpura → Need for tuberculin skin testing ⁸	
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component → Aged younger than 6 weeks	
	Precaution → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Hepatitis B (HepB)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component	→ Pregnancy → Autoimmune disease (e.g., systemic lupus erythematosus or rheumatoid arthritis)
	Precautions → Infant weighing less than 2,000 grams (4 lbs., 6.4 oz.) ² → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Hepatitis A (HepA)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component	
	Precautions → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Varicella (Var) ^{4,6}	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component → Known severe immunodeficiency (e.g., from hematologic and solid tumors, receipt of chemotherapy, primary or acquired immunodeficiency, or long-term immunosuppressive therapy ⁵ or patients with human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] infection who are severely immunocompromised) ⁶	→ Pregnancy of recipient's mother or other close or household contact → Immunodeficient family member or household contact ¹⁰ → Asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic HIV infection → Humoral immunodeficiency (e.g., agammaglobulinemia)
	Precautions → Recent (within 11 months) receipt of antibody-containing blood product (specific interval depends on product) ⁷ → Receipt of specific antivirals (i.e., acyclovir, famciclovir, or valacyclovir) 24 hours before vaccination, if possible, delay resumption of these antiviral drugs for 14 days after vaccination. → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose (of PCV, PCV13, or any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine) or to a component of a vaccine	
	Precaution → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine, injectable (IIV3) Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine, injectable (IIV4)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component, including egg protein	→ Non-severe (e.g., contact) allergy to latex, thimerosal, or egg → Concurrent administration of coumadin or aminophylline
	Precaution → Persons who experience only hives with exposure to eggs should receive TIV with the additional safety precautions. See Prevention and Control of Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP); United States 2013-2014 → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever → History of GBS within 6 weeks of previous dose of influenza vaccine	
Influenza, live-attenuated vaccine (LAIV) ⁴	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component, including egg protein → Possible reactive airways disease in a child age 2 through 4 years (e.g., history of recurrent wheezing or a recent wheezing episode) → Immune suppression → Certain chronic medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, heart or kidney disease ⁹ → Pregnancy	→ Health-care providers that see patients with chronic diseases or altered immunocompetence (an exception is providers for severely immunocompromised patients requiring care in a protected environment) → Breastfeeding → Contacts of persons with chronic disease or altered immunocompetence (an exception is contacts of severely immunocompromised patients requiring care in a protected environment)
	Precaution → Receipt of specific antivirals (i.e., amantadine, rimantadine, zanamivir, or oseltamivir) 48 hours before vaccination. Avoid use of these antiviral drugs for 14 days after vaccination → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever → History of GBS within 6 weeks of previous influenza vaccine	
Pneumococcal (PPSV or PPV)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component	→ History of invasive pneumococcal disease or pneumonia
	Precaution → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Meningococcal conjugate (MCV4)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component	
	Precaution → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Meningococcal polysaccharide (MPSV4)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component	
	Precaution → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component	→ Immunosuppression → Previous equivocal or abnormal Papanicolaou test → Known HPV infection → Breastfeeding → History of genital warts
	Precautions → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever → Pregnancy	
Rotavirus (RV5 [RotaTeq], RV1 [Rotarix])	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component → Severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID)	→ Prematurity → Immunosuppression in household contacts → Pregnant household contacts
	Precautions → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever → History of intussusception → Altered immunocompetence other than SCID → Chronic gastrointestinal disease ³ → Spina bifida or bladder exstrophy ³	
Zoster (Zos) ⁴	→ Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a vaccine component → Known severe immunodeficiency (e.g., from hematologic and solid tumors, receipt of chemotherapy, or long-term immunosuppressive therapy ⁵ or patients with HIV infection who are severely immunocompromised). → Pregnancy	→ Therapy with low-dose methotrexate (<.04 mg/kg/week), azathioprine (>3.0 mg/kg/day), or 6-mercaptopurine (<1.5 mg/kg/day) for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, polymyositis, sarcoidosis, inflammatory bowel disease, or other conditions → Health-care providers of patients with chronic diseases or altered immunocompetence → Contacts of patients with chronic diseases or altered immunocompetence → Unknown or uncertain history of varicella in a U.S.-born person
	Precautions → Receipt of specific antivirals (i.e., acyclovir, famciclovir, or valacyclovir) 24 hours before vaccination; avoid use of these antiviral drugs for 14 days after vaccination → Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever	

1. Vaccine package inserts and the full ACIP recommendations for these vaccines should be consulted for additional information on vaccine-related contraindications and precautions and for more information on vaccine recipients. Events or conditions listed as precautions should be reviewed carefully. Benefits of and risks for administering a specific vaccine to a person under these circumstances should be considered. If the risk from the vaccine is believed to outweigh the benefit, the vaccine should not be administered. If the benefit of vaccination is believed to outweigh the risk, the vaccine should be administered. A contraindication increases the chance of a serious adverse reaction. Therefore, a vaccine should

not be administered when a contraindication is present. Whether and when to administer DTaP to children with proven or suspected underlying neurologic disorders should be decided on a case-by-case basis.
2. Hepatitis B vaccination should be deferred for preterm infants and infants weighing less than 2000 g if the mother is documented to be hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg)-negative at the time of the infant's birth. Vaccination can commence at chronological age 1 month or at hospital discharge. For infants born to women who are HBsAg-positive, hepatitis B immunoglobulin and hepatitis B vaccine should be administered within 12 hours of birth, regardless of weight.

3. For details, see CDC. "Prevention of Rotavirus Gastroenteritis among Infants and Children: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. (ACIP)" MMWR 2009;58(No. RR-2), available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html.
4. LAIV, MMR, varicella, and zoster vaccines can be administered on the same day. If not administered on the same day, these live vaccines should be separated by at least 28 days.
5. Immunosuppressive steroid dose is considered to be 2 or more weeks of daily receipt of 20 mg prednisone or equivalent. Vaccination should be deferred for at least 1 month after discontinuation of such therapy. Providers should consult ACIP

recommendations for complete information on the use of specific live vaccines among persons on immune-suppressing medications or with immune suppression because of other reasons.
6. HIV-infected children may receive varicella and measles vaccine if CD4+ T-lymphocyte count is >15%. (Source: Adapted from American Academy of Pediatrics. Immunization in Special Clinical Circumstances. In: Pickering LK, ed. Red Book: 2012 Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. 29th ed. Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; 2012.)
7. Vaccine should be deferred for the appropriate interval if replacement immune globulin products are being administered (see "General

Recommendations on Immunization: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)" MMWR 2011;60(No. RR-2) available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html.
8. Measles vaccination might suppress tuberculin reactivity temporarily. Measles-containing vaccine may be administered on the same day as tuberculin skin testing. If testing cannot be performed until after the day of MMR vaccination, the test should be postponed for at least 4 weeks after the vaccination. If an urgent need exists to skin test, do so with the understanding that reactivity might be reduced by the vaccine.

9. For more information on use of influenza vaccines among persons with egg allergies and a complete list of conditions that CDC considers to be reasons to avoid getting LAIV, see CDC. Prevention and Control of Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)—United States, 2013–14. MMWR 2013;62(No. RR07):1–43, available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs.html.
10. If a vaccinee experiences a presumed vaccine-related rash 7–25 days after vaccination, the person should avoid direct contact with immunocompromised persons for the duration of the rash.