

Immunizations

What the ED Practitioner Needs to Know

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The Schedule – Too Complicated!

Table 1 Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for ages 18 years or younger, United States, 2021

These recommendations must be read with the notes that follow. For those who fall behind or start late, provide catch-up vaccination at the earliest opportunity as indicated by the green bars. To determine minimum intervals between doses, see the catch-up schedule (Table 2). School entry and adolescent vaccine age groups are shaded in gray.

Vaccine	Birth	1 mo	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	9 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	19–23 mos	2–3 yrs	4–6 yrs	7–10 yrs	11–12 yrs	13–15 yrs	16 yrs	17–18 yrs
Hepatitis B (HepB)	1 st dose	← 2 nd dose →			← 3 rd dose →												
Rotavirus (RV): RV1 (2-dose series), RV5 (3-dose series)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	See Notes												
Diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis (DTaP <7 yrs)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	3 rd dose			← 4 th dose →				5 th dose					
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	See Notes		← 3 rd or 4 th dose → See Notes										
Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV13)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	3 rd dose		← 4 th dose →										
Inactivated poliovirus (IPV <18 yrs)			1 st dose	2 nd dose			← 3 rd dose →					4 th dose					
Influenza (IIV)																	
Influenza (LAIV4)																	
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)					See Notes		← 1 st dose →					2 nd dose					
Varicella (VAR)							← 1 st dose →					2 nd dose					
Hepatitis A (HepA)					See Notes												
Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap ≥7 yrs)																	
Human papillomavirus (HPV)																	
Meningococcal (MenACWY-D ≥9 mos, MenACWY-CRM ≥2 mos, MenACWY-TT ≥2yrs)																	
Meningococcal B																	
Pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV23)																	

Range of recommended ages for all children

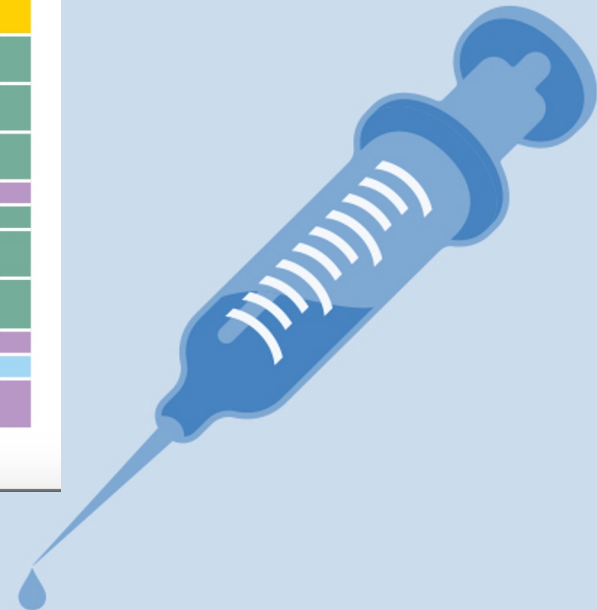
Range of recommended ages for catch-up immunization

Range of recommended ages for certain high-risk groups

Recommended based on shared clinical decision-making or
*can be used in this age group

No recommendation/
not applicable

What does “Imms up to date” really mean??

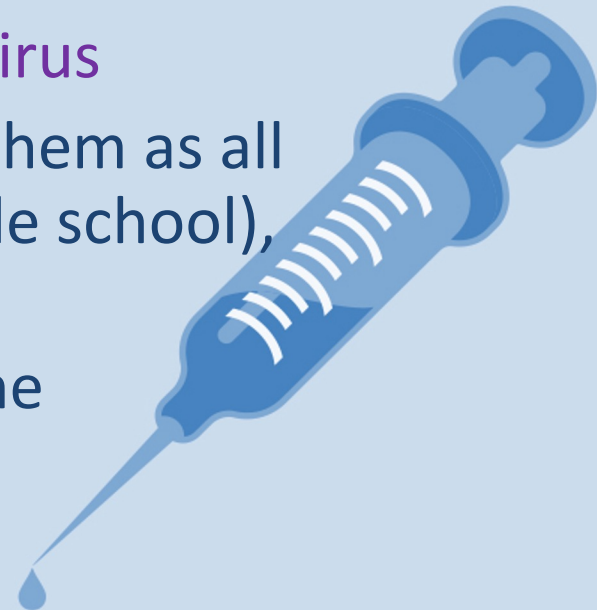


<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>

The Schedule - Simplified

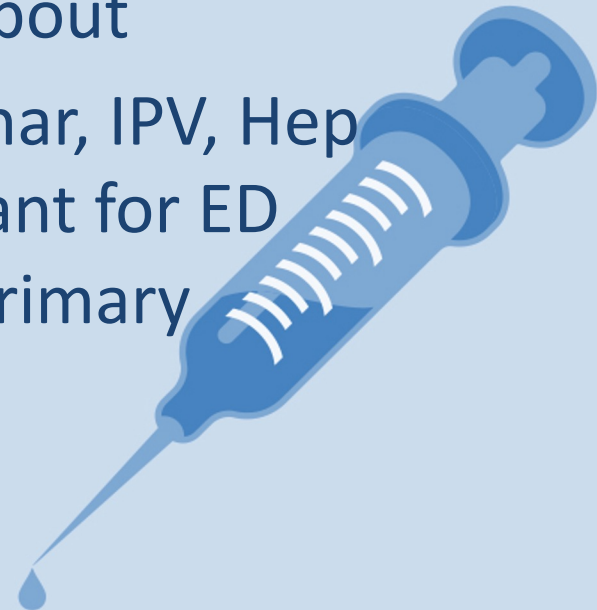
- Hepatitis B #1 often given at birth
 - Mostly meaningless in the ED evaluation
- First “real” set of immunizations at 6-8 weeks
 - Think 2, 4, 6 months
 - DTaP, polio (IPV), Hib, Prevnar, Rotavirus
 - After this “primary” series, think of them as all good in terms of tetanus (until middle school), H. flu, pneumococcus protection
 - Will also get Hep B #2 and #3 – let the pediatricians worry about when

A 4 week old that is “up to date on imms” means very little



The Schedule - Simplified

- 12-15 months
 - Mnemonic: $2 + 4 + 6 = 12$
 - **There are no “9 month shots”** – don’t let a parent tell you baby missed those
 - **MMR, Varicella** – what you care about
 - Also a booster for DTaP, Hib, Prevnar, IPV, Hep B, and start Hep A series – irrelevant for ED evaluation if the patient got the primary series



The Schedule – Simplified!

- Kindergarten entry
 - 2nd MMR and Varicella
 - DTaP booster, IPV
- Middle school (usually required for 7th grade)
 - Tdap booster
 - Meningococcal ACYW #1
- 16-18 years (before college)
 - Meningococcal ACYW #2, Meningococcal B
- Yearly influenza starting at age 6 months
- COVID Pfizer approved for 12yo and older



The Schedule Simplified

Age	Shots you care about	Other shots
Birth		Hep B #1
2, 4, 6 months	DTaP, Hib, Prevnar	Polio (IPV), Rotavirus
12 months	MMR, Varicella	DTaP, Hib, Prevnar, IPV, Hep A, Hep B
Kindergarten (5yo)	MMR, Varicella, DTaP	IPV
Middle school (7 th grade)	Tdap Meningococcus ACYW #1	HPV
12yo and older	COVID	
Before college	Meningococcus ACYW #2 Meningococcus B	



Schedule: 2, 4,
6, 12-15mo

Prevnar-13 Efficacy

- Prevention of invasive pneumococcal disease 80% by vaccine serotypes, 58% by other serotypes
- Large declines in pneumococcal otitis media
 - Small declines in all-cause otitis media
- **97-100% after full series for vaccine serotypes**
 - **Can you still have invasive pneumococcal disease if immunized? Yes**, there are many serotypes
- Implications for febrile infant work-up
 - **4 weeks after 1 dose, efficacy 80-90% for most vaccine serotypes**
 - Also herd immunity



Hib Efficacy

Schedule: 2, 4,
sometimes 6
depending on
formulation,
12-15mo

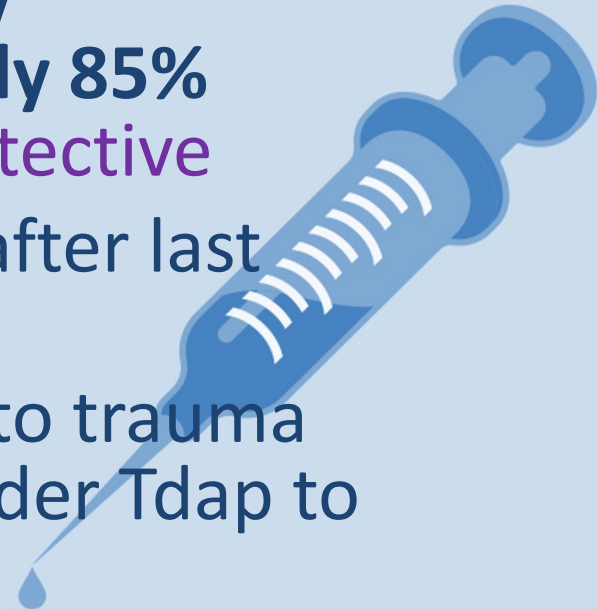
- Against invasive disease
 - After one dose 59%
 - After two doses 92%
 - After three doses 93%
- **Can you still have Hib if immunized? Yes**
- Implications for fever work-up
 - Not a lot of Hib around anymore
 - Herd immunity



Pertussis Efficacy

Schedule: 2, 4,
6, 15-18mo (min
age 12mo), 4-6
years

- At ≥ 6 weeks of age, having had at least one pertussis vaccination resulted in odds ratios:
 - Death 0.28 (95% CI 0.11-0.74)
 - Hospitalization 0.69 (95% CI 0.63-0.77)
 - Pneumonia 0.80 (95% CI 0.68-0.95)
- **Can you still have pertussis if fully immunized? Yes, after 3 doses only 85% protective, after 5 doses, 89% protective**
- Also, immunity wanes with years after last booster
- When giving tetanus booster due to trauma in older adolescent or adult, consider Tdap to boost pertussis immunity too

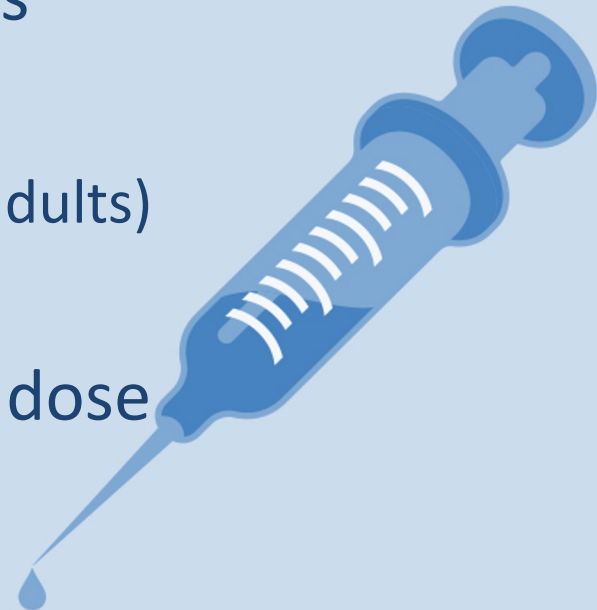


Schedule: 12-
15mo, 4-6 years

MMR Efficacy

Component	Seroconversion after 1 dose	Efficacy after 1 dose	Efficacy after 2 doses
Measles	96%	93%	97%
Mumps	94%	78%	88%
Rubella	99%	97%	

- Long duration of protection 15+ years
- Can you still have if immunized?
 - Mumps definitely (outbreaks in young adults)
 - Measles milder version
- During outbreaks in e.g. colleges, 3rd dose may protect against mumps



Schedule: 12-
15mo, 4-6 years

Varicella Efficacy

- One dose
 - 80% effective at preventing varicella
 - 95-98% effective at preventing moderate (50-500 lesions) or severe disease
 - $\geq 99\%$ effective at preventing severe disease
- Two doses more effective
 - 92-93%



Breakthrough Varicella

- Can you still get if immunized?
- Yes, “breakthrough varicella” after exposed to wild type (non-vaccine) varicella
 - **1-3% per year after vaccination**
 - Much milder
 - Low or no fever
 - Rash may be maculopapular, not vesicular
 - 50 or fewer lesions



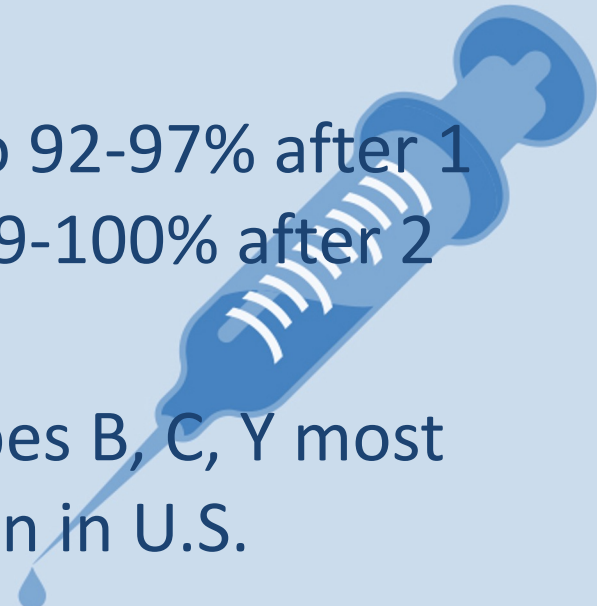
Meningococcal Vaccines

are confusing

ED docs
don't really
need to
know this

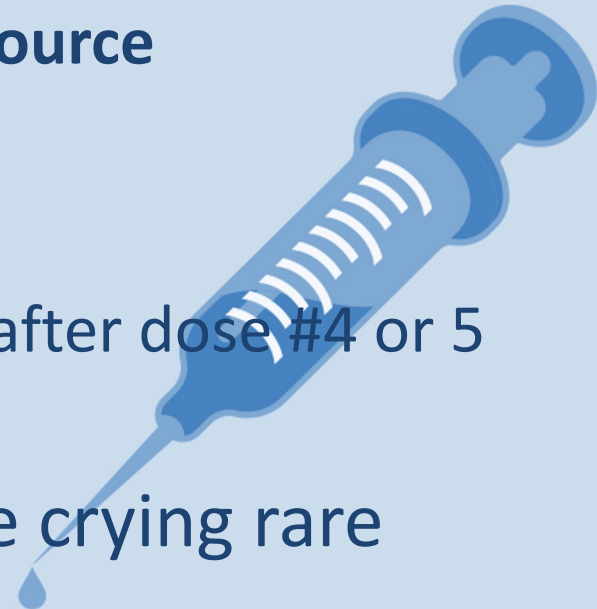
Brand Names	Coverage	When Given
Menactra, Menveo, Nimenrix outside U.S.	Serogroups A, C, Y, W135	11-12 years, booster at 16 years (or just before college)
Trumenba (3 dose series), Bexsero (2 dose series)	Serogroup B	Approved for 10-25yo, preferred 16-18yo, Also used for outbreaks

- Efficacy Men ACYW 85%
 - Waned to 69% within 6-8 years
- Trumenba 54-63% after one dose, 83-85% after 3 doses
- Bexsero 92-97% after 1 dose, 99-100% after 2 doses
- Serotypes B, C, Y most common in U.S.



Common Adverse Effects After DTaP

- When? First 48 hours
 - Fever
 - Low-grade 25% (40% per AAP recent fever guidelines)
 - 40.5 C or higher – only 0.1%
 - **The higher the fever, or started at > 48 hours, or lasting > 48 hrs, work up for other source**
 - Local redness, tenderness, pain
 - Mild 25%
 - 2-3% entire limb swelling especially after dose #4 or 5
 - Not a contraindication for next dose
 - Seizures, anaphylaxis, inconsolable crying rare
- **Give acetaminophen**
 - **Tell parents the correct dose for weight**



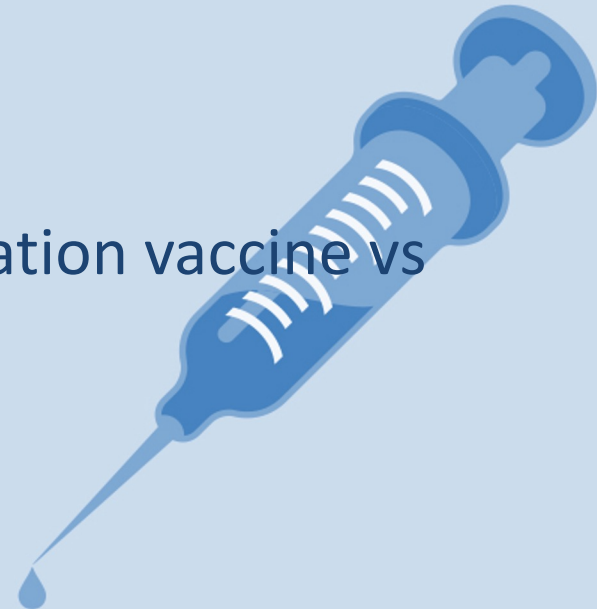
Other 2, 4, 6 mo vaccines

- Hib: first 24 hours, mild / uncommon
- Prevnar-13: first 1-2 days, mild, fever, headache, myalgias, fatigue
- Polio (IPV): very rare; contains streptomycin, neomycin, polymyxin B = potential for allergy
- Rotavirus: small ↑ risk intussusception
 - 1 excess case per 20,000 to 100,000
 - Applicator has latex = potential for allergy



Common Adverse Effects After MMR

- **When? 1-2 weeks after vaccine**
 - For kids 12-18mo, ask if got MMR/Varicella vaccine in last 1-2 weeks
- Fever ≥ 39.4 F in 5-15%, 6-12 days after MMR
- Transient rash in 5%, usually ~ 10 days after
- Febrile seizures 1 in 3000-4000
 - 5-12 days after vaccine
 - Twice as frequent if MMR-V combination vaccine vs two vaccines given separately
- Rare transient thrombocytopenia



Common Adverse Effects After Varicella Vaccine

- **When? 1-2 weeks after vaccine**
 - For kids 12-18mo, ask if got MMR/Varicella vaccine in last 1-2 weeks
- 1-3% localized rash, 3-5% generalized rash
 - 5-26 days after vaccine
 - May be maculopapular, not vesicular
- Fever 15%, higher if MMR-V combination vaccine
 - Usually 5-12 days after vaccine
 - Increased risk febrile seizures as per MMR slide



Other Vaccines

Teens faint

- Hepatitis B: mild, local reaction, low-grade fever
- Hepatitis A: mild, local reaction
- HPV: mild, headache, fever, fatigue, malaise
 - Association with syncope; lay down x 15 min after
- Meningococcal: common, local reaction, headache, fatigue, irritability, fever
 - Syncope common; lay down x 15 min after
 - Guillain-Barre' after Menactra?
 - 0 to 1.5 per million doses



Tetanus

Immunization history & wound type	Tetanus immunization	Tetanus immune globulin
< 3 doses or unknown; clean, minor wound	< 7yo: DTaP 7-11yo: Tdap 11yo+: Tdap or dT	No
≥ 3 doses, clean minor wound	Only if ≥ 10 years since last booster	No
< 3 doses or unknown; contaminated or high risk wound	< 7yo: DTaP 7-11yo: Tdap 11yo+: Tdap or dT	250 u IM (regardless of age or weight), different site from vaccine
≥ 3 doses, contaminated or high risk wound	Only if ≥ 5 years since last booster	No

For infants < 6mo old, use maternal immunization history to determine need for TIG



Influenza Immunization

- **Annually from age 6 months up**
- **Intramuscular**
 - **Age 6mo – 8yo *and* didn't get vaccine last year need 2 doses, 4 weeks apart**
 - Subsequent years # doses depend on age at first dose, vaccine history, current year's vaccine makeup
 - Age 9yo and up get one dose
- **Intranasal alternative**
 - 2yo and older
 - Live (as opposed to IM vaccine)
- **Adverse effects**
 - Fever within 24 hours in 10-35% young children
 - Mild influenza-like symptoms
 - Egg allergy is NOT a contraindication



COVID

- At this time, only Pfizer BNT162b2 vaccine is approved for ages 5-17 years
 - 0.3mL IM, 2 doses given 21 days apart 12-17 yrs
 - 0.2mL IM, 2 doses given 21 days apart 5-11 yrs
 - **NOTE:** cannot use the adolescent / adult formulation, must use the formulation for 5-11 yr olds
 - Ongoing trials in children 6 months +
- OK to give concurrently with flu shot
- Booster 3rd dose recommended at 6-8 months after 2nd dose maybe



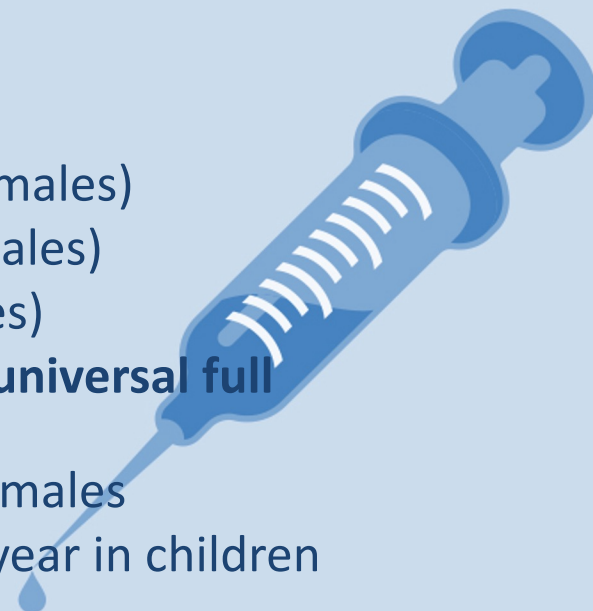
COVID Vaccine Adverse Effects

After (Pfizer, 16 and older)	Local reaction	Fatigue	Headache	Myalgias	Fevers, chills, joint pain
1 st dose	65%	29%	25%	17%	
2 nd dose	65%	48%	40%	37%	20% each

* Higher rate of these in younger patients

- Myocarditis & Pericarditis

- Primarily young (teen / young adult) males
- More often after 2nd dose
- **62.8** cases per million in 12-17yo males (8-10 females)
- 40.6 cases per million in 12-29yo males (4.2 females)
- 2.4 cases per million in ≥ 30 yo males (1.0 females)
- **May have significant dysrhythmias, but nearly universal full recovery reported, no deaths in kids**
- After COVID disease, **328** per million in 12-17yo males
- General population 10-20 cases per million per year in children

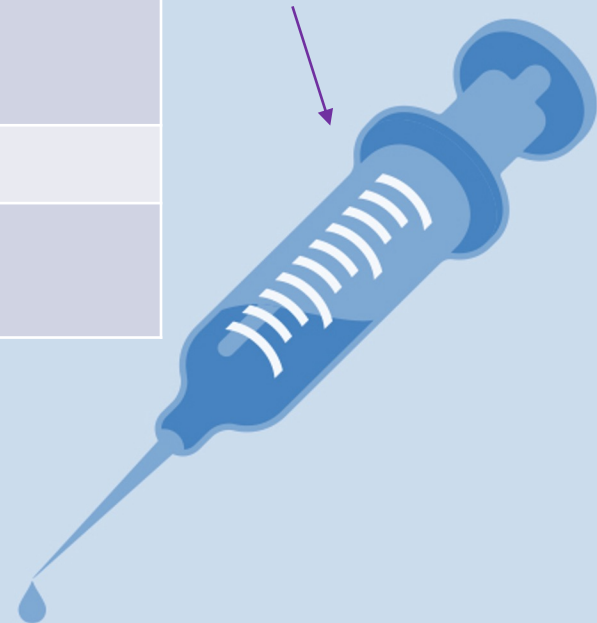


Summary

Age	Shots you care about	Other shots
Birth		Hep B #1
2, 4, 6 months	DTaP, Hib, Prevnar	Polio (IPV), Rotavirus
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5yo and older	COVID	
Before college	Meningococcus ACYW #2 Meningococcus B	

Annual influenza
after age 6mo

MMR, Varicella
adverse effects
1-2 weeks later



**Learn how to access the CAIR information
in your EMR!**

Resources

- CDC
- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>
- Shots Immunization App
- <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/shots-immunizations/id958783646>
- https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.immunizationed.shotsG3&hl=en_US
- Vaccine preventable diseases from pemplaybook.org
- <https://pemplaybook.org/podcast/vaccine-preventable-illnesses-part-1/>
- <https://pemplaybook.org/podcast/vaccine-preventable-illnesses-part-2/>

