Vaccination Guidelines for Adults

This table gives general guidelines on adult vaccinations. Check with the doctor of the person you support for questions about specific conditions. For guidelines with a star (*), you should talk to the person's doctor.

Vaccine:	19-49 years old:	50-64 years old:	64 years or older:
Influenza	Individuals with a chronic health problem or in close contact with at-risk individuals need a dose every fall or winter.	Individuals need a dose every fall or winter.	
Pneumococcal			Individuals need one dose if they have not been vaccinated.
Tetanus, Diptheria, Pertussus (Td or Tdap)	Individuals who have not had at least 3 tetanus-and-diphtheria-containing shots ("Td shots") sometime in their life, need to get them now. They should start with dose #1, followed by dose #2 in a month, and dose #3 in 6 months. All adults need Td booster doses every 10 years. If they are younger than age 65 years and haven't had a pertussis-containing vaccine as an adult, they should have a pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine—known as "Tdap."		
Hepatitis B	Individuals need this vaccine if they are at high risk for hepatitis B infection* or simply wish to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is given as a 3-dose series (dose #1 now, followed by dose #2 in 1 month, and dose #3, usually given 5 months after dose #2).		
Hepatitis A	Individuals need this vaccine if they are at high risk for hepatitis A infection* or simply wish to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is usually given as 2 doses, 6–18 months apart.		
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)	Women need this vaccine if they are age 26 years or younger. The vaccine is given in 3 doses over 6 months.		
Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)	Individuals need at least 1 dose of MMR if they were born in 1957 or later. They may also need a 2nd dose.*		
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	If the individual never had chickenpox or was vaccinated but only received 1 dose, talk to their healthcare provider about whether they need this vaccine.		
Meningococcal	Individuals with certain medical conditions should receive this vaccine.*		
Zoster (shingles)			Individuals who are age 60 years or older should get this vaccine now.

Last updated:
Vaccination Guidelines
01/04/2010 California Department of Developmental Services