

Vaccinations for Pregnant Women

The table below shows which vaccinations you should have to protect your health when you are pregnant. Make sure you and your healthcare provider keep your vaccinations up to date.

Vaccine	Do you need it?
Hepatitis A (HepA)	Maybe. You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor for hepatitis A virus infection* or simply want to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is usually given in 2 doses, 6 months apart. It's safe to get this vaccine during pregnancy.
Hepatitis B (HepB)	Maybe. You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor for hepatitis B virus infection* or simply want to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is usually given in 3 doses, over a 6-month period. It's safe to get this vaccine during pregnancy. It's important, too, that your newborn baby gets started on his or her hepatitis B vaccination series before leaving the hospital.
Human papillomavirus (HPV)	No. This vaccine is not recommended to be given during pregnancy, but if you inadvertently receive it, this is not a cause for concern. HPV vaccine is recommended for all women age 26 years or younger, so make sure you are vaccinated before or after your pregnancy. The vaccine is given in 3 doses over a 6-month period.
Influenza	Yes! You need a flu shot every fall (or winter) for your protection and for the protection of others around you. It's safe to get the vaccine during pregnancy.
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	No. The MMR vaccine is not recommended to be given during pregnancy, but if you inadvertently receive it, this is not a cause for concern. At least 1 dose of MMR vaccine is recommended for you if you were born in 1957 or later. (And you may need a second dose.*) It's best for you (and any future baby) to receive the protection vaccination provides before trying to conceive.
Meningococcal (MCV4, MPSV4)	Maybe. You need this vaccine if you have one of several health conditions, or if you are 19–21 and a first-year college student living in a residence hall and you either have never been vaccinated or were vaccinated before age 16.* It's safe to get the vaccine during pregnancy.
Pneumococcal (PCV13, PPSV23)	Maybe. You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor for pneumococcal disease, such as diabetes. If you're unsure of your risk, talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need this vaccine.* It's safe to get the vaccine during pregnancy.
Tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough (pertussis) (Tdap, Td)	Yes! Women who are pregnant need a dose of Tdap vaccine (adult whooping cough vaccine) during each pregnancy, preferably during the third trimester. After that, you'll need a Td booster dose every 10 years. Talk to your healthcare provider if you haven't had at least 3 tetanus- and diphtheria-containing shots sometime in your life or if you have a deep or dirty wound.
Varicella (chickenpox) (VAR)	No.* Varicella vaccine is not recommended to be given during pregnancy, but if you inadvertently receive it, this is not a cause for concern. If you haven't been vaccinated or had chickenpox, it's best for you (and any future baby) to be protected with the vaccine before trying to conceive. If you were born in the U.S. in 1980 or later and have never had chickenpox or the vaccine, you need to get 2 doses 4–8 weeks apart.

*Consult your healthcare provider to determine your level of risk for infection and your need for this vaccine.

If you will be traveling outside the United States, you may need additional vaccines. For information, consult your healthcare provider, a travel clinic, or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/travel.