

AAP Recommended Immunization Schedule — 2026

Adolescents 7 Through 18 Years Old

	7 years	8 years	9 years	10 years	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17 years	18 years
MenACWY												
MenB							Recommended for some teens					
Flu		Yearly										
HPV (3 doses if given after age 15)				2 doses recommended								
Tdap												
COVID-19		As recommended for age group										

For more information, visit healthychildren.org/immunizationschedules.

A Companion to the 2026 AAP Recommended Immunization Schedule

Adolescents: 7-18 years old (on reverse)

Vaccine	Disease vaccine prevents	About the disease	About the vaccine
MenACWY	Meningococcal disease, serogroups A,C,W,Y	Meningococcal infections are bacterial infections caused by the bacteria <i>N. meningitidis</i> that is spread through close contact with infected individuals through airborne droplets and direct contact. Though uncommon, infections can become fatal extremely quickly, the most common forms infecting membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord.	This vaccine protects against four of the five vaccine-preventable types of meningococcus bacteria. It is an example of a conjugate vaccine because a harmless protein is conjugated (attached) to a polysaccharide in order to induce an immune response to the sugar coating of the A, C, W, and Y type of meningococcus bacteria.
MenB	Meningococcal disease, serogroup B		This vaccine was developed to address type B meningococcal infections, which account for one third of infections in adolescents and adults, as well as two-thirds of infant cases. Type B has a sugar coating that is similar to a protein in our cells and would change from outbreak to outbreak. Newer vaccines have been able to make use of surface proteins to more reliably protect against subtypes of Type B.
Flu	Influenza (flu)	A contagious viral infection targeting the nose, throat, and occasionally the lungs. The flu spreads easily through airborne droplets and direct contact with infected individuals.	Seasonal flu vaccines are designed to target the flu viruses scientists predict are most likely to be circulating in the upcoming flu season by analyzing global surveillance data.
Tdap	Diphtheria	Tetanus (aka lockjaw) is caused by entry of a common environmental bacterium (<i>Clostridium tetani</i>) through broken skin. Once inside the body, the bacteria produce toxins that cause muscle rigidity and spasms. Both Diphtheria and Pertussis ("whooping cough") are infections of the respiratory tract, but are caused by two different species of bacteria. Infants are at heightened risk for severe disease.	The DTaP vaccine is called a toxoid vaccine because it contains inactive versions of the toxins produced by the bacteria that cause tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis. The pertussis component also contains purified inactivated bacterial proteins.
	Tetanus		Tdap differs from DTaP (given to infants) in that it has lower amounts of diphtheria and pertussis proteins. This is to reduce the chance of swelling and discomfort at the injection site experienced by some older adolescents and adults that is not typically experienced in younger children
	Pertussis		
HPV	Human Papillomavirus	HPV is a virus with around 100 different variants which can infect skin, genitals, and the cervical lining. HPV is the most common sexually transmitted disease in the world, and can be spread through vaginal, anal, and oral sex or non-sexual genital to genital contact. Some strains of HPV can lead to certain types of cancer later in life, including cervical, vaginal, and vulvar cancers in people with female reproductive organs, penile cancer in people with male reproductive organs, and anal cancers or cancers of tonsils, base of tongue, and back of throat (oropharyngeal cancer) in all people.	HPV vaccination is recommended before patients become sexually active in order to reduce the spread of HPV in young people. It is estimated that 85-90% of sexually active unvaccinated people will contract some form of HPV in their lifetime, and half of all new infections are diagnosed in individuals from 15 - 24 years old. Getting vaccinated for HPV can prevent over 90% of cancers caused by HPV.
COVID-19	COVID-19	A respiratory infection with symptoms including fever, cough, fatigue that range from mild to severe. The virus spreads through airborne particles and direct contact.	mRNA and protein based COVID-19 vaccine options are available. Both types are updated each fall to best protect against currently circulating strains of the COVID-19 virus.



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VaCS supports the AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics) 2026 Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule (found on reverse), which is widely supported by over 230 medical and professional organizations and has been endorsed by New York State.

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vacs@cornell.edu
(607) 229-1760

