

Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) Advisory



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**Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH)
Guidance on Recommended Reference Materials for Pediatric Immunization
Schedules
January 2026**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) is issuing this notification to inform clinicians of a change in recommended reference materials for pediatric immunization schedules.

DPH has a longstanding and ongoing commitment to promoting evidence-based immunization practices that protect communities from vaccine preventable illnesses. Following a review of recent changes to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) pediatric immunization schedule, DPH now recommends that clinicians in Massachusetts use the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\) Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#) as the primary reference for the routine immunization of infants, children, and adolescents.

Massachusetts
Department of Public
Health will update
clinicians about changes
in vaccine guidance.

Is funding for pediatric vaccines at risk?

- Funding and access to pediatric vaccines in Massachusetts remain secure.
- Currently, pediatric vaccines are available to all Massachusetts children through the Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund. ([MGL c.111, § 24N](#))
 - Vaccine Purchase Trust Fund is partially funded by the federal government through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program
 - If federal funding for pediatric vaccines is no longer available, plans are in place to purchase the vaccines with state funding.



DPH Guidance - Use CDC Adult Immunization Schedule

The CDC Adult Immunization Schedule has not been changed to the same extent as the Childhood/Adolescent Schedule.

Because the CDC Adult Immunization Schedule is mostly the same as before - DPH continues to recommend clinician use it to guide the routine immunization for adults, **except for COVID-19 vaccination.**

Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule for Ages 19 Years or Older

UNITED STATES
2025

Vaccines in the Adult Immunization Schedule*

Vaccine	Abbreviation(s)	Trade name(s)
COVID-19 vaccine	1vCOV-mRNA 1vCOV-aP5	Comirnaty, mRNA1273, Spikevax Nuvaxovid
Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine	Hib	ActHib, Hibertix, Pedvax-HB
Hepatitis A vaccine	HepA	Havrix, Vaqta
Hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccine	HepA-HepB	Twinrix
Hepatitis B vaccine	HepB	Engerix-B, Hepbuvax-B, PreHevris, Recombivax HB
Human papillomavirus vaccine	HPV	Gardasil 9
Influenza vaccine (inactivated, egg-based)	IN3	Fluad
	aIN3	Fluzone High-Dose
	HD-IN3	Fluzone High-Dose
Influenza vaccine (inactivated, cell-culture)	ccIV3	Flucelvax
Influenza vaccine (recombinant)	RIV3	Flublok
Influenza vaccine (live, attenuated)	LAN3	FluMist
Measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine	MMR	M-M-R II, Priorix
Meningococcal serogroups A, C, W, Y vaccine	MenACWY-CRM MenACWY-TT	Menveo MenQuadfi
Meningococcal serogroup B vaccine	MenB-4C	Bexsero
	MenB-FHbp	Trumenb
Meningococcal serogroup A, B, C, W, Y vaccine	MenACWY-TT/ MenB-FHbp	Penbraya
Moraxipox vaccine	Mpxv	Jynneos
Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine	PCV15 PCV20	Vaxneuvance Prevnar 20
	PCV21	Capvax
Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine	PPSV23	Pneumovax 23
Poliovirus vaccine (inactivated)	IPV	Ipocel
Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine	RSV	Abrysvo, Arexvy, mResvia
Tetanus and diphtheria vaccine	Td	Tenivac
Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis vaccine	Tdap	Adacel, Boostrix
Varicella vaccine	VAR	Varivax
Zoster vaccine, recombinant	RZV	Shingrix

*Administer recommended vaccines if vaccination history is incomplete or unknown. Do not restart or add doses to vaccine series if there are extended intervals between doses. The use of trade names is for identification purposes only and does not imply endorsement by ACP or CDC.

How to use the adult immunization schedule


- 1 Determine recommended vaccinations by age (Table 1)
- 2 Assess need for additional recommended vaccinations by medical condition or other indication (Table 2)
- 3 Review vaccine types, dosing frequency and intervals, and considerations for special situations (Notes)
- 4 Review contraindications and precautions for vaccine types (Appendix)
- 5 Review new or updated ACP guidance (Addendum)

Report

- Suspected cases of reportable vaccine-preventable diseases or outbreaks to the local or state health department
- Clinically significant adverse events to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System at www.vaers.hhs.gov or 800-622-7967



Questions or comments

Contact www.cdc.gov/cdc-info or 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636), in English or Spanish, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.



Helpful information

- Complete Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations: www.cdc.gov/acip/ncu/hcp/vaccine-specific/
- ACIP Shared Clinical Decision-Making Recommendations: www.cdc.gov/acip/vaccine-recommendations/shared-clinical-decision-making.html
- General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-best-practices/index.html
- Vaccine information statements: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vi/index.html
- Manual for the Surveillance of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (including case identification and outbreak response): www.cdc.gov/surv-manual/index.html

Scan QR code for access to online schedule

Revised October 07, 2025

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/adult-age.html>

CDC Provides a SCDM Recommendation for COVID-19 Vaccination for All Ages and Medical Conditions

Ages 19 Years or Older

Legend

- Recommended vaccination for adults who meet age requirement, lack documentation of vaccination, or lack evidence of immunity
- Recommended vaccination for adults with an additional risk factor or another indication
- Vaccination is based on shared clinical decision-making
- No Guidance/Not Applicable

Vaccine	19-26 years	27-49 years	50-64 years	≥65 years
COVID-19 [Ⓢ]	1 or more doses of 2025-2026 vaccine (See Notes)			2 or more doses of 2025-2026 vaccine (See Notes)

Vaccine	Pregnancy	Immune-compromised (excluding HIV infection)	HIV infection CD4 percentage and count		Men who have sex with men	Aplenia, complement deficiency	Heart or lung disease	Kidney failure, End-stage renal disease or on dialysis	Chronic liver disease, alcoholism [Ⓢ]	Diabetes	Health care Personnel [Ⓢ]
			<15% or <200/ [Ⓢ]	≥15% and ≥200/ [Ⓢ]							
COVID-19 [Ⓢ]	See Notes	Additional doses may be necessary (See Notes)	See Notes								

CDC Immunization Schedule has a Shared Clinical Decision-Making (SCDM) Recommendation for everyone, including for those at higher risk for severe COVID-19 disease.

Public Health Burden of COVID-19 is Significant

Preliminary 2025-2026 U.S. COVID-19 Burden Estimates

CDC estimates* that, from October 1, 2025 through February 14, 2026, there have been:

2.9 million - 8.4 million



COVID-19
Illnesses

600,000 - 1.6 million



COVID-19
Outpatient Visits

95,000 - 160,000



COVID-19
Hospitalizations

10,000 - 28,000



COVID-19
Deaths

*Based on data from September 28, 2025 through February 14, 2026.

[Download Data](#)

- Risk of severe COVID-19 varies with age and medical condition.
- COVID-19 vaccines are effective in preventing COVID-19 morbidity.
- Side effects from COVID-19 vaccination are generally mild.

DPH Issued Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccination

Massachusetts 2025-2026 Respiratory Illness Season

COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

COVID-19 is an easily transmitted and potentially dangerous respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. COVID-19 vaccines are critical tools to reduce public health burden of COVID-19 disease. COVID-19 vaccines have been shown to be safe and provide effective protection against serious outcomes, including hospitalization and death. Populations at higher risk for severe COVID-19 outcomes benefit most from vaccination.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) is committed to providing resourced, evidence-based recommendations to guide the use of vaccines to protect our communities. DPH conferred with scientists and physicians across the northeast region to collaboratively develop recommendations for the use of the 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccines.

The DPH 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine recommendations align with those of the [Northeast Public Health Collaborative Recommendations for the 2025-2026 COVID-19 Vaccine](#) and leading physician professional organizations, including the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#), the [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists \(ACOG\)](#), and the [American Academy of Family Physicians \(AAFP\)](#). The table below summarizes the DPH COVID-19 vaccine recommendations for the 2025-2026 respiratory season.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dph-recommended-guidance-for-vaccines#COVID-19-vaccine-guidance>

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