

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases



## General Best Practice Guidelines on Immunization Part Two

Chapter 2

September 2018

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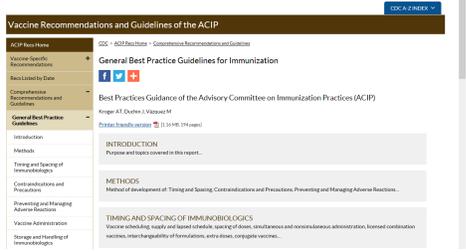
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## General Best Practice Guidelines = General Recommendations




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## General Recommendations on Immunization

- ACIP MMWR Table of Contents
  - Timing and spacing
  - Contraindications and precautions
  - Preventing and managing adverse reactions to immunization
  - Vaccine administration
  - Storage and handling
  - Altered immunocompetence
  - Special situations
  - Vaccination records
  - Vaccination programs
  - Vaccine information sources

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### General Recommendations on Immunization

- A chapter in the Pink Book
  - Timing and spacing
  - Contraindications and precautions

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### General Recommendations on Immunization

- A chapter in the Pink Book
  - Timing and spacing
  - Contraindications and precautions
    - Screening

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### Screening

- Specific questions intended to identify contraindications or precautions to vaccination
- Screening must occur at every immunization encounter (not just before the first dose)
- Use of a standardized form will facilitate effective screening
- Following questions written from the perspective of the pediatric patient, but can be adjusted for the adult patient

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**Screening Questions**

- Is the child sick today?
- Does the child have an allergy to any medications, food, or any vaccine?
- Has the child had a serious reaction to a vaccine in the past?

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**Screening Questions**

- Has the child had a seizure, brain, or nerve problem?
- Has the child had a health problem with asthma, lung disease, heart disease, kidney disease, metabolic disease (such as diabetes), or a blood disorder?

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**Screening Questions**

- Does the child have cancer, leukemia, AIDS, or any other immune system problem?
- Has the child taken cortisone, prednisone, other steroids, or anticancer medications, or had x-ray treatments in the past 3 months?

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### Screening Questions

- Has the child received a transfusion of blood or blood products, or been given a medicine called immune (gamma) globulin in the past year?
- Is the child/teen pregnant or is there a chance she could become pregnant during the next month?
- Has the child received vaccinations in the past 4 weeks?

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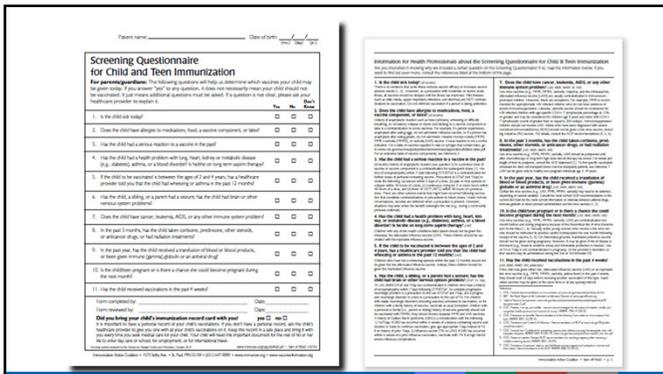
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### Invalid Contraindications

- Mild illness
- Antimicrobial therapy
- Disease exposure or convalescence
- Pregnant or immunosuppressed person in the household
- Breastfeeding
- Preterm birth
- Allergy to products not present in vaccine or allergy that is not severe (e.g. anaphylactic)
- Family history of adverse events
- Tuberculin skin testing
- Multiple vaccines

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### Invalid Contraindications

- **Mild Illness**
  - Vaccinate with:
    - Low grade fever
    - Upper respiratory infection
    - Otitis media
    - Mild diarrhea

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### Household Contacts and Pregnancy

- Susceptible household contacts of pregnant women
  - SHOULD receive MMR and varicella vaccines
  - SHOULD receive either non-live influenza or LAIV
  - SHOULD receive zoster and rotavirus vaccines if eligible

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### Invalid Contraindications

- **Preterm Birth (less than 37 weeks)**
  - Generally, infants and children should be vaccinated according to chronologic age (not gestational age)
  - Use full recommended dose
  - Birth weight and size not factors but, as with all rules, there are exceptions (HepB)

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### Family History of Adverse Events

- Family history of adverse events generally NOT a contraindication
- Family history can be a precaution:
  - Example: family history of seizures is a precaution to MMRV
- Family history of a condition can also be a contraindication/precaution
  - Example: family history of immunosuppression requires screening to assure the condition is not inherited prior to receipt of MMR and varicella vaccine

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### What Do You Think?

A pregnant woman living in the household is a contraindication of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) and varicella (VAR) vaccines to a healthy child in the same household.

- a. True
- b. False

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PLEASE PLACE QUESTIONS IN THE BASKET

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