



**Medical
Blueprints**

VACCINES ADULTS NEED REPORT #2697

BACKGROUND: It is recommended for adults to keep their vaccinations up-to-date because immunity from childhood vaccines can wear off over time. There are also risks for different diseases as an adult. Vaccination is one of the most convenient and safest preventive care measures available. Vaccine-preventable diseases can cause long-term illness, hospitalization, and even death. In the United States, the CDC estimates that since 2010, flu-related hospitalizations have ranged from 140,000 to 710,000 and flu-related deaths have ranged from 12,000 to 56,000. About 900,000 people get pneumococcal pneumonia every year, leading to as many as 400,000 hospitalizations and 19,000 deaths. And, 700,000 to 1.4 million people suffer from chronic hepatitis B, with complications such as liver cancer. HPV causes over 27,000 cancers in women and men each year, while about 4,000 women die each year from cervical cancer.

(Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/index.html> and <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/vpd.html>)

MOST COMMON ADULT VACCINES: The vaccines needed as an adult are determined by many factors including age, lifestyle, health condition, and which vaccines you've received during your life. As an adult, vaccines are recommended for protection against seasonal influenza. Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every year as the best way to reduce the risk of flu and its potentially serious complications. Pertussis, also known as whooping cough is another recommended vaccine. The Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccine is recommended for women during each pregnancy and once for all adults who have not previously received it. Tetanus and diphtheria, the Td vaccine is recommended every 10 years. Shingles, the herpes zoster vaccine, is recommended for adults 50 years and older. Two pneumococcal vaccines are recommended for adults 65 years and older. One or both vaccines may be recommended for adults younger than 65 who have specific health conditions or who smoke cigarettes.

(Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/features/adultimmunizations/index.html>)

VACCINE ADVANCES: Collaborative efforts in the United States between the federal government and the private sector have led to improved influenza vaccine technologies that have either expanded vaccine supply or improved vaccine effectiveness. And in some cases, has accomplished both goals. A long-term goal for flu vaccines is the development of a single vaccine that would provide safe, effective and long-lasting immunity against a broad spectrum of influenza viruses, both seasonal and novel. A flu vaccine with these qualities is often referred to as a "universal flu vaccine." At this time, CDC is participating in a broad inter-agency partnership coordinated by BARDA that supports the advanced development of new and better influenza vaccines in which these efforts have already yielded successes. This task poses an enormous scientific and programmatic challenge, but a number of government agencies and private companies already have begun work to advance development of a universal flu vaccine.

(Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/advances.htm>)

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