

Recommended Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Who Start Late or Who Are More Than 1 Month Behind UNITED STATES • 2005

The tables below give catch-up schedules and minimum intervals between doses for children who have delayed immunizations. There is no need to restart a vaccine series regardless of the time that has elapsed between doses. Use the chart appropriate for the child's age.

CATCH-UP SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN AGED 4 MONTHS THROUGH 6 YEARS

Vaccine	Minimum Age for Dose 1	Minimum Interval Between Doses			
		Dose 1 to Dose 2	Dose 2 to Dose 3	Dose 3 to Dose 4	Dose 4 to Dose 5
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	6 wks	4 weeks	4 weeks	6 months	6 months¹
Inactivated Poliovirus	6 wks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks²	
Hepatitis B ³	Birth	4 weeks	8 weeks (and 16 weeks after first dose)		
Measles, Mumps, Rubella	12 mo	4 weeks⁴			
Varicella	12 mo				
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b ⁵	6 wks	4 weeks if first dose given at age <12 months	4 weeks⁶ if current age <12 months	8 weeks (as final dose) This dose only necessary for children aged 12 months–5 years who received 3 doses before age 12 months	
		8 weeks (as final dose) if first dose given at age 12-14 months	8 weeks (as final dose)⁶ if current age ≥12 months and second dose given at age <15 months		
		No further doses needed if first dose given at age ≥15 months	No further doses needed if previous dose given at age ≥15 mo		
Pneumococcal ⁷	6 wks	4 weeks if first dose given at age <12 months and current age <24 months	4 weeks if current age <12 months	8 weeks (as final dose) This dose only necessary for children aged 12 months–5 years who received 3 doses before age 12 months	
		8 weeks (as final dose) if first dose given at age ≥12 months or current age 24–59 months	8 weeks (as final dose) if current age ≥12 months		
		No further doses needed for healthy children if first dose given at age ≥24 months	No further doses needed for healthy children if previous dose given at age ≥24 months		

CATCH-UP SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN AGED 7 YEARS THROUGH 18 YEARS

Vaccine	Minimum Interval Between Doses		
	Dose 1 to Dose 2	Dose 2 to Dose 3	Dose 3 to Booster Dose
Tetanus, Diphtheria	4 weeks	6 months	6 months⁸ if first dose given at age <12 months and current age <11 years 5 years⁸ if first dose given at age ≥12 months and third dose given at age <7 years and current age ≥11 years 10 years⁸ if third dose given at age ≥7 years
Inactivated Poliovirus ⁹	4 weeks	4 weeks	IPV^{2,9}
Hepatitis B	4 weeks	8 weeks (and 16 weeks after first dose)	
Measles, Mumps, Rubella	4 weeks		
Varicella ¹⁰	4 weeks		

Footnotes

Children and Adolescents Catch-up Schedules

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1. **DTaP.** The fifth dose is not necessary if the fourth dose was given after the fourth birthday.
2. **IPV.** For children who received an all-IPV or all-oral poliovirus (OPV) series, a fourth dose is not necessary if third dose was given at age ≥4 years. If both OPV and IPV were given as part of a series, a total of 4 doses should be given, regardless of the child's current age.
3. **HepB.** All children and adolescents who have not been immunized against hepatitis B should begin the HepB immunization series during any visit. Providers should make special efforts to immunize children who were born in, or whose parents were born in, areas of the world where hepatitis B virus infection is moderately or highly endemic.
4. **MMR.** The second dose of MMR is recommended routinely at age 4–6 years but may be given earlier if desired.
5. **Hib.** Vaccine is not generally recommended for children aged ≥5 years.
6. **Hib.** If current age <12 months and the first 2 doses were PRP-OMP (PedvaxHIB or ComVax [Merck]), the third (and final) dose should be given at age 12–15 months and at least 8 weeks after the second dose.
7. **PCV.** Vaccine is not generally recommended for children aged ≥5 years.
8. **Td.** For children aged 7–10 years, the interval between the third and booster dose is determined by the age when the first dose was given. For adolescents aged 11–18 years, the interval is determined by the age when the third dose was given.
9. **IPV.** Vaccine is not generally recommended for persons aged ≥18 years.
10. **Varicella.** Give 2-dose series to all susceptible adolescents aged ≥13 years.

Report adverse reactions to vaccines through the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System. For information on reporting reactions following immunization, please visit www.vaers.org or call the 24-hour national toll-free information line 800-822-7967. Report suspected cases of vaccine-preventable diseases to your state or local health department.

For additional information about vaccines, including precautions and contraindications for immunization and vaccine shortages, please visit the National Immunization Program Web site at www.cdc.gov/nip or call the National Immunization Information Hotline at 800-232-2522 (English) or 800-232-0233 (Spanish).