

# VACCINATE ADULTS!

from the Immunization Action Coalition — [www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org)

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## Ask the Experts

The Immunization Action Coalition extends thanks to our experts, medical officer Andrew T. Kroger, MD, MPH, and nurse educator Donna L. Weaver, RN, MN, both with the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

### HPV vaccine

#### What is the new HPV vaccine schedule recommendation?

In October 2016, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to recommend a routine 2-dose HPV vaccine schedule for adolescents who start the vaccination series before the 15th birthday. The two doses should be separated by 6–12 months (the minimum interval between doses is 5 months). A 3-dose schedule continues to be recommended for people who start the series on or after the 15th birthday and for people

## ACIP Votes to Update Recommendations for HPV, Tdap, MenB, and HepB Vaccines

On October 19–20, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) met in Atlanta and voted to update several of its existing vaccine recommendations. Some of the changes are described below.

### Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine

ACIP voted to change the HPV vaccination schedule from a 3-dose to a 2-dose series for adolescents who begin the HPV series at 9 through 14 years of age, regardless of age at series completion. Those who start the series later, at 15 through 26 years of age, or who are immunocompromised, will continue to need 3 doses.

The 9vHPV vaccine (HPV9, Gardasil 9, Merck) will soon be the only HPV vaccine available in the U.S. As of October 2016, Merck is distributing only HPV9, and supplies of 2vHPV (Cervarix, GSK) in the U.S. are now depleted. HPV9 may be used to complete a series begun with 4vHPV (HPV4, Gardasil, Merck) or 2vHPV.

### Meningococcal Serogroup B Vaccine

Bexsero (MenB-4C, GSK) has previously been recommended by ACIP for use as a 2-dose series for high-risk individuals and in outbreak settings, and may also be administered to healthy individuals age 16 through 23 years. In April, FDA approved a label change giving MenB-FHbp (Trumenba, Pfizer) as either a 2-dose (0, 6 months) or 3-dose

(0, 1–2, 6 months) series. ACIP voted to recommend that healthcare providers who use Trumenba continue to use the 3-dose series when vaccinating people at increased risk of meningococcal serogroup B disease (e.g., people with persistent complement component deficiencies or anatomical or functional asplenia) or during serogroup B outbreaks. The 2-dose series of Trumenba can be used for routine vaccination for healthy people age 16 through 23 years.

### Tdap Vaccine

Previous ACIP recommendations called for prenatal care providers to vaccinate all pregnant women with Tdap vaccine during each pregnancy with optimal timing for this dose designated between 27 and 36 weeks gestation. In October, ACIP voted to recommend administering Tdap vaccination early in the 27- through 36-week "window" to maximize passive antibody transfer to the infant. The new recommendations also clarify that children age 7 through 10 years who receive Tdap as part of a catch-up series may be given an additional Tdap for the routinely recommended adolescent dose at 11–12 years of age.

### Hepatitis B Vaccine

ACIP voted to approve a new guidance document that consolidates all previously published recommendations into a comprehensive statement. ♦

with certain immunocompromising conditions (such as cancer, HIV infection, or taking immunosuppressive drugs). An updated ACIP statement was published on December 15, and is available at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/pdfs/mm6549.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/pdfs/mm6549.pdf), pages 1405–8.

#### Has ACIP expressed a preference for the 2-dose over the 3-dose schedule for adolescents 9 through 14 years of age?

Yes. ACIP recommends the 2-dose schedule for people starting the HPV vaccination series before the 15th birthday, as long as they are immunocompetent.

#### Does the 2-dose HPV vaccine schedule need to be completed with the same vaccine, or can it include different vaccines (such as bivalent or quadrivalent vaccine)?

The 2-dose schedule can be completed with any combination of HPV vaccine brands as long as dose #1 was given before age 15 years. Dose #2 should be administered 6–12 months after dose #1.

#### If dose #1 of HPV vaccine was given before the 15th birthday and it has been more than a year since that dose was given, would the series be complete with just one additional dose?

Yes. Adolescents and adults who started the HPV vaccine series prior to the 15th birthday and who are not immunocompromised are considered to be adequately vaccinated with just one additional dose of HPV vaccine.

#### We have adolescents in our practice who have received the first 2 doses of the HPV

Ask the Experts...continued on page 2 ►

### Immunization questions?

- Email [nipinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:nipinfo@cdc.gov)
- Call your state health department (phone numbers at [www.immunize.org/coordinators](http://www.immunize.org/coordinators))