

# Vaccinations for Adults with Chronic Liver Disease or Infection

This table shows which vaccinations you should have to protect your health if you have chronic hepatitis B or C infection or chronic liver disease (e.g., cirrhosis). Make sure you and your healthcare provider keep your vaccinations up to date.

Vaccine	Do you need it?
<b>Hepatitis A</b> (HepA)	<b>Yes!</b> Your chronic liver disease or infection puts you at risk for serious complications if you get infected with the hepatitis A virus. If you've never been vaccinated against hepatitis A, you need 2 doses of this vaccine, usually spaced 6–12 months apart.
<b>Hepatitis B</b> (HepB)	<b>Maybe.</b> If you already have chronic hepatitis B infection, you won't need hepatitis B vaccine. If you have hepatitis C, you need hepatitis B vaccine. The vaccine is given in 2 or 3 doses, depending on the brand. Ask your healthcare provider if you need screening blood tests for hepatitis B.
<b>Hib</b> ( <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b)	<b>Maybe.</b> Some adults with certain high-risk conditions, for example, lack of a functioning spleen, need vaccination with Hib. Talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need this vaccine.
<b>Human papillomavirus</b> (HPV)	<b>Yes!</b> You need this vaccine if you are a woman age 26 or younger or a man age 21 or younger. Men age 22 through 26 at increased risk* also need vaccination. All other men age 22 through 26 who want to be protected from HPV may receive it too. The vaccine is usually given in 3 doses over a 6-month period.
<b>Influenza</b>	<b>Yes!</b> You need a dose every fall (or winter) for your protection and for the protection of others around you.
<b>Measles, mumps, rubella</b> (MMR)	<b>Maybe.</b> You need at least 1 dose of MMR vaccine if you were born in 1957 or later. You may also need a second dose.*
<b>Meningococcal ACWY</b> (MenACWY)	<b>Maybe.</b> You may need MenACWY vaccine if you have one of several health conditions,* for example, if you do not have a functioning spleen. You need MenACWY if you are a first-year college student living in a residence hall and you either have never been vaccinated or were vaccinated before age 16.
<b>Meningococcal B</b> (MenB)	<b>Maybe.</b> You should consider MenB vaccine if you are age 23 or younger (even if you don't have a high-risk medical condition). You may need MenB if you have one of several health conditions,* for example, if you do not have a functioning spleen.
<b>Pneumococcal</b> (Pneumovax 23, PPSV23; Prevnar 13, PCV13)	<b>Yes!</b> All adults through age 64 with chronic liver disease, including chronic hepatitis B or C, need to get vaccinated with Pneumovax. If you haven't been vaccinated, you should get 1 dose now. You may also need a 1-time dose of Prevnar, depending on the medications you take, whether you have a weakened immune system, or if you have another risk condition.* At age 65 (or older), you will need a dose of Prevnar if you haven't received it previously, and a second dose of Pneumovax, provided at least 5 years have passed since your first dose. Prevnar and Pneumovax are usually spaced 1 year apart.
<b>Tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough (pertussis)</b> (Tdap, Td)	<b>Yes!</b> If you have not received a dose of Tdap during your lifetime, you need to get a Tdap shot now (the adult whooping cough vaccine). And all women need to get a dose during each pregnancy. After that, you need a Td booster dose every 10 years. Consult your healthcare provider if you haven't had 3 doses of tetanus/diphtheria vaccine or any prior Tdap vaccine, or if you have a deep or dirty wound.
<b>Varicella</b> (Chickenpox)	<b>Maybe.</b> If you've never had chickenpox, never were vaccinated, or were vaccinated but received only 1 dose, talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need this vaccine.
<b>Zoster</b> (shingles)	<b>Yes!</b> If you are age 50 or older, you should get the 2-dose series of the Shingrix brand of shingles vaccine, even if you already were vaccinated with Zostavax.

\* Consult your healthcare provider to determine your level of risk for infection and your need for this vaccine.

For more information about hepatitis B or hepatitis C, visit [www.cdc.gov/hepatitis](http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis).

**Are you planning to travel outside the United States?** Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website at [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list) for travel information, or consult a travel clinic.