

Infectious Respiratory Disease Immunization Timeline

BABIES AND YOUNG CHILDREN (AGES 2 MONTHS–6 YEARS)

Immunization is the best protection against many infectious respiratory illnesses. Vaccines strengthen our immune defenses and reduce the severity and spread of disease. Learn more about recommended immunizations [here](#).

		>1 YEAR	1-2 YEARS OLD	3-4 YEARS OLD	5-6 YEARS OLD
PERTUSSIS (WHOOPING COUGH)¹	To protect against pertussis, children younger than age 7 receive the DTaP vaccines. This is a five-dose combination vaccine series with recommended administration at:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 2 months ▶ 4 months ▶ 6 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Anytime 15 through 18 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Anytime 4 through 6 years 	
PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE²	For all children younger than age 5, the recommended pneumococcal vaccine series is four doses administered at:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 2 months ▶ 4 months ▶ 6 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Anytime 12 through 15 months 		
RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV)³	To protect against RSV, two preventive antibodies, nirsevimab or clesrovimab, are recommended if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mother did not receive the RSV vaccine during pregnancy • The mother's RSV vaccination status is unknown • The infant was born within 14 days of maternal RSV vaccination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Infants younger than 8 months who are born during or who will experience their first RSV season (October–March) 			
	Infants and young children who are at increased risk for severe RSV, include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children who were born prematurely and have chronic lung disease • Children who are severely immunocompromised • Children with cystic fibrosis who have severe disease • American Indian and Alaska Native children 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Nirsevimab is also available for some young children who are at increased risk for severe illness from RSV and are entering their second RSV season. 		
INFLUENZA (FLU)⁴	Everyone ages 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every year, starting in the fall. Some children ages 6 months–8 years may need two doses for best protection.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 1–2 doses of the flu vaccine, annually. 		
COVID-19⁵	<p>Children ages 6 months and older who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised may receive a COVID-19 vaccine based on individual-based decision-making. This means that, in conversation with a healthcare provider, the decision to vaccinate is made based on individual characteristics, including risk factors, characteristics of the vaccine itself, and evidence of who may benefit from vaccination.</p> <p>COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for children ages 6 months and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised based on individual-based decision-making. The vaccine and number of 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine doses are based on age and vaccination history. Parents should talk to their child's healthcare provider for more information.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Children ages 6 months–4 years who have not been previously vaccinated may get one or two doses of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine, depending on their age. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Everyone ages 5 years and older, may get one dose of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine.

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/dtap-dtd/ap/administering-vaccine.html> 2. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/pneumo/public/index.html> 3. <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/vaccines/protect-infants.html>

4. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/children.html> 5. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/child-adolescent-age.html#table-1>

