

# 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
<b>PERTUSSIS (WHOOPING COUGH)<sup>1</sup></b>	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"> <li>▶ 2 months</li> <li>▶ 4 months</li> <li>▶ 6 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Anytime 15 through 18 months</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Anytime 4 through 6 years</li> </ul>
<b>PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE<sup>2</sup></b>	For all children younger than age 5, the recommended pneumococcal vaccine series is four doses administered at:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 2 months</li> <li>▶ 4 months</li> <li>▶ 6 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Anytime 12 through 15 months</li> </ul>		
<b>RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV)<sup>3</sup></b>	<p>To protect against RSV, two preventive antibodies, nirsevimab or clesrovimab, are recommended if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The mother did not receive the RSV vaccine during pregnancy</li> <li>• The mother's RSV vaccination status is unknown</li> <li>• The infant was born within 14 days of maternal RSV vaccination</li> </ul> <p>Infants and young children who are at increased risk for severe RSV, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children who were born prematurely and have chronic lung disease</li> <li>• Children who are severely immunocompromised</li> <li>• Children with cystic fibrosis who have severe disease</li> <li>• American Indian and Alaska Native children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Infants younger than 8 months who are born during or who will experience their first RSV season (October–March)</li> </ul>			
<b>INFLUENZA (FLU)<sup>4</sup></b>	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"> <li>▶ 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.</li> </ul>		
<b>COVID-19<sup>5</sup></b>	<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"> <li>▶ 1-2 doses of the flu vaccine, annually.</li> </ul>		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 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.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Everyone ages 5 years and older, may get one dose of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine.</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Children ages 6 months–4 years who received previous COVID-19 vaccines may get one or two doses of the 2025–2026 COVID-19 vaccine depending on the vaccine and the number of previous doses they received.</li> </ul>		



1. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/dtap-dtap-td/hcp/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/immunization-schedules/child-adolescent-age.html#table-1>