



Caring for Your Child Together:

Understanding Their Vaccines



Let's Decide Together

We recognize that recent changes in national immunization (vaccine) recommendations may feel confusing or even overwhelming. Please talk with your child's pediatric health care provider. We are here to support you, answer your questions, and partner with you in the shared goal of keeping your child healthy.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

Do health care providers at UPMC still recommend my child get vaccines? Has the vaccine schedule changed?

UPMC doctors, along with other professional organizations, continue to recommend a full vaccine schedule for all children, providing protection against 18 diseases. The vaccine schedule we recommend has not changed.

Are these vaccines safe?

Based on decades of evidence and research, these vaccines have been proven to be safe and effective.

Should I skip or delay certain vaccines?

No, unless your child's pediatric health care provider recommends delaying a specific vaccine. The schedule/timing is based on the ages when they may be most vulnerable to an illness, and the vaccines are timed for the best immunity. Following the entire series on time, including vaccines for flu, hepatitis A and B, meningococcal disease, and RSV, reduces the risks of severe illness and complications and limits disease outbreaks in our communities.

Have the vaccine requirements for school or childcare changed?

The Pennsylvania Department of Health's requirements for school and childcare attendance remain unchanged at this time. If you need help understanding what is required, your pediatric provider can review that with you.

Will insurance still cover the costs of vaccines?

Insurance coverage from all payers for all pediatric vaccines remains the same.

Who should I contact to decide which vaccines are right for my child?

Contact your child's pediatric health care provider to decide what is best for your child or if you have any questions.

UPMC recommends the following vaccine schedule:

Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis B
2 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis B • Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP) • Polio (IPV) • Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) • Pneumococcal (PCV) • Rotavirus
4 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis B • Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP) • Polio (IPV) • Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) • Pneumococcal (PCV) • Rotavirus
6 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis B • Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP) • Polio (IPV) • Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) • Pneumococcal (PCV) • Rotavirus
12 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis A • Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) • Varicella
14-15 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) • Pneumococcal (PCV)
18 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP) • Hepatitis A
Age 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP) • Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) • Varicella • Polio (IPV)
Age 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPV (1st dose)
Ages 10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meningococcal Vaccines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1st dose: given between ages 11 and 15 ◦ 2nd dose: required by age 16 or before entry into the 12th grade • Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (Tdap) • HPV (2nd dose)

For more information, please visit [ChildrensPeds.com/WellVisit](https://www.ChildrensPeds.com/WellVisit).