

Immunizations Mini Care Guide

April 2025



Information contained in this Mini Care Guide is not a substitute for a health care professional's clinical judgment. Evaluation and treatment should be tailored to the individual patient and the clinical circumstances. Furthermore, using this information will not guarantee a specific outcome for each patient. Refer to "Disclaimer Regarding Care Guides" for further clarification.

<https://cchcs.ca.gov/clinical-resources/>

Purpose and Structure

Vaccine-preventable diseases may cause substantial morbidity and mortality within California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) institutions. Several sections of the Health Care Department Operations Manual (HCDOM) of California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS), such as 3.1.6 on Population and Care Management Services, 3.1.7 on Care Management/Care Coordination, and 3.1.8 on Reception Center, emphasize the offering of appropriate vaccinations to all patients. This Immunizations Mini Care Guide is a tool to aid health care practitioners, leadership, public health and infection control nurses, and other staff in providing routine vaccinations recommended for each incarcerated person.

This Mini Care Guide provides links to relevant national recommendations on vaccinations, which change frequently.

General Considerations

In the United States, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) provides recommendations to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the use of vaccines. With some exceptions, the CDC generally accepts and publishes the ACIP's recommendations.

The CDC disseminates information on vaccines in various ways. One of the most important documents is the "Adult Immunization Schedule by Age" for persons 19 years and older at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/adult-age.html> which is updated annually and as needed. For the small number of persons incarcerated at CDCR institutions who are 18 years old, the "Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule by Age" at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/child-adolescent-age.html> would apply.

Two apps that may be helpful for clinicians regarding recommended vaccinations are available for download on CDCR/CCHCS iPhones: CDC's Vaccine Schedules and CDC's PneumoRecs VaxAdvisor. For any difficulties with installing these apps, please contact IT.



Links to national recommendations for specific routine vaccinations for adults are listed below in alphabetical order. Highlights of the recommendations, as well as any CCHCS-specific considerations, are also given. The Quality Management Immunization Patient Registry at <https://qmttools.accounts.cdcr.ca.gov/Reports/report/QM/Registries/ImmunizationsRegistry> can be consulted to quickly assess whether a patient may need to be offered any of the following vaccinations (except for Hib). In the Electronic Health Record System, most vaccines have PowerPlans to assist in ordering and administration. Please be aware of vaccine contraindications; for example, some vaccines should not be given during pregnancy.

COVID-19

- **Reference:** "Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States Interim Clinical Considerations" at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html>
- **Highlights:** This vaccine is recommended for all adults; the composition of the vaccine has varied over time to match circulating variants. Please note differences in recommendations for persons 65 and older and for immunocompromised people.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** Please refer to Public Health's Lifeline page at https://cdcr.sharepoint.com/sites/cchcs_lifeline_ph/SitePages/COVID%20Resources.aspx

Haemophilus Influenzae type B (Hib)

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/hib.html>
- **Highlights:** For adults, Hib vaccine is used only in limited situations, such as in patients who have received a splenectomy. The vaccine is given as a one- or three-dose series, depending on indication.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

Hepatitis A (also available as part of Hepatitis A – Hepatitis B vaccine)

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Hepatitis A Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/hepatitis-a.html>
- **Highlights:** Incarcerated adults are considered at risk for HAV infection. Please note that there are different schedules for the two-dose HepA single antigen vaccine versus the three-dose HepA-HepB combination vaccine.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

Hepatitis B (also available as part of Hepatitis A – Hepatitis B vaccine)

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Hepatitis B Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/hepatitis-b.html>
- **Highlights:** HepB vaccine is recommended for all incarcerated adults. Please note that there are different schedules for the two-dose HepB single antigen vaccine versus the three-dose HepA-HepB combination vaccine.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/hpv.html>
- **Highlights:** This vaccine is recommended for patients under age 27; patients between 27 and 45 may elect to be vaccinated based on shared decision making. This vaccine is generally given in three doses.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

Influenza (Seasonal)

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Influenza (Flu) Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/flu.html>
- **Highlights:** One dose is recommended for all adults annually, with specific choice of vaccine influenced by age and organ transplant status.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** Please refer to Public Health’s Lifeline page at https://cdcr.sharepoint.com/sites/cchcs_lifeline_ph/SitePages/Influenza%20Resources.aspx

Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/mmr.html>
- **Highlights:** This vaccine is normally given in one dose. Consider a second dose for incarcerated persons without presumptive evidence of immunity [working in healthcare settings](#) “who could be exposed to infectious agents” (e.g., when cleaning). Because the vaccine contains live virus, there are special contraindications. Please note that [CDC recommends](#) that people without presumptive evidence of immunity based on documented MMR doses who have negative or equivocal results for measles IgG should be vaccinated or revaccinated.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

Meningococcal

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Meningococcal Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/meningococcal.html>
- **Highlights:** Meningococcal vaccine is recommended for adults with certain medical conditions or risk factors. Several vaccines are available that protect against different serogroups. The dosing varies by age of the recipient, risk factors, and product.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

Mpox

- **Reference:** “Mpox Vaccine Recommendations” at <https://www.cdc.gov/mpox/vaccines/index.html>
- **Highlights:** A two-dose series of JYNNEOS vaccine is recommended for certain groups at high risk for mpox due to sexual contact.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** Patients within 6 months of their release date who have HIV or who are transgender should be offered a dose of the vaccine. Please refer to Public Health’s Lifeline page at https://cdcr.sharepoint.com/sites/cchcs_lifeline_ph/SitePages/Mpox.aspx

Pneumococcal

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Pneumococcal Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/pneumococcal.html>
- **Highlights:** The vaccine is recommended for adults aged ≥50 years. In addition, adults with certain medical conditions and risk factors are recommended to receive pneumococcal vaccine. Several vaccines are available that protect against different serogroups. The dosing is complex; CDC’s PneumoRecs VaxAdvisor is available as a mobile app and at <https://www2a.cdc.gov/vaccines/m/pneumo/pneumo.html> to assist in clinical decision-making.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/rsv.html>
- **Highlights:** The vaccine is given as a single dose. There are two sets of recommendations for the vaccine, one for adults aged ≥60 years and one for pregnant persons.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap) or Tetanus and diphtheria (Td)

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTaP/Tdap/Td) Vaccines” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/dtap-tdap-td.html>
- **Highlights:** One dose of Tdap or Td is recommended every 10 years for adults and for each pregnancy. Special dosing regimens are used for patients who did not receive primary vaccination series or who have a wound.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

Varicella

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Varicella (Chickenpox) Vaccine” at [https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/varicella.html](https://www.cdc.gov/acip/recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/varicella.html)
- **Highlights:** Vaccination consists of two doses. Because the vaccine contains live virus, there are special contraindications.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** Varicella outbreaks can pose a threat to incarcerated persons.¹ As stated in HCDOM 3.1.8, Reception Center Initial Health Screening includes varicella immunoglobulin G (IgG) testing on an opt-out basis. Patients found to be seronegative for varicella IgG should be offered varicella vaccination unless contraindicated.

Zoster

- **Reference:** “ACIP Recommendations: Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine” at <https://www.cdc.gov/acip-recs/hcp/vaccine-specific/shingles.html>
- **Highlights:** Zoster vaccine is recommended for adults 50 years and older and adults 19 and older with a weakened immune system. Please note that zoster vaccination does not prevent chickenpox.
- **CCHCS-Specific Notes:** none.

¹ Leung J, et al. Challenges with controlling varicella in prison settings: experience of California, 2010 to 2011. J Correct Health Care. 2014 Oct;20(4):292-301.