

Vaccines for Preteens and Teens: What Parents Need to Know



Vaccinating preteens and teens is important because the protection provided by childhood vaccines can decrease over time. They are also at risk for different diseases as they get older. Vaccines are recommended beginning at age 11 or 12 years. Older teens who were not vaccinated earlier should be immunized as soon as possible. Ask a healthcare provider if your preteen or teen is up-to-date.

Disease	Vaccine	When and How Many
Pertussis (Whooping Cough) is highly contagious and causes severe coughing fits that can last for weeks.	Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap) vaccine	One dose at age 11 or 12 years
Meningococcal infection can be very serious, even deadly. About 1 in 10 people with meningococcal disease will die from it.	Quadrivalent meningococcal vaccine (MCV4)	Two doses: one at age 11 or 12 years and a booster dose at age 16 years
	Serogroup B meningococcal vaccine (MenB)	Two or three doses at age 16 - 18 years
Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus that can cause 6 different cancers and genital warts.	Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine	Two or three doses, depending on age, starting at age 11 or 12 years
Influenza or “flu” can cause mild to severe illness, and in some cases, can cause death.	Flu vaccine	One dose every year

Recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Family Physicians

For more information, visit health.hawaii.gov

