

# Vaccinations for Adults without a Spleen

*The table below shows which vaccinations you should have to protect your health if you do not have a functioning spleen. Make sure you and your healthcare provider keep your vaccinations up to date.*

Vaccine	Do you need it?
<b>COVID-19</b>	<b>Yes!</b> All adults are recommended to get a primary series of COVID-19 vaccine plus booster doses when eligible.
<b>Hepatitis A (HepA)</b>	<b>Maybe.</b> You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor for hepatitis A* or simply want to be protected from this disease. The vaccine is usually given in 2 doses, 6–18 months apart.
<b>Hepatitis B (HepB)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> All adults younger than 60 are recommended to complete a 2- or 3-dose series of hepatitis B vaccine, depending on the brand. In addition, people 60 and older with high risk conditions or those who simply want the protection, should also be vaccinated.
<b>Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> You are at increased risk for Hib disease because you do not have a functioning spleen. If you have never received Hib vaccination (or don't know if you received it), you should receive 1 dose now.
<b>Human papilloma-virus (HPV)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> You should get this vaccine if you are 26 years or younger. Adults age 27 through 45 may also be vaccinated against HPV after a discussion with their healthcare provider. The vaccine is usually given in 2 or 3 doses (depending on the age at which the first dose was given) over a 6-month period.
<b>Influenza (Flu)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> You need to be vaccinated against influenza every fall (or even as late as winter or spring) for your protection and for the protection of others around you.
<b>Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)</b>	<b>Maybe.</b> You need at least 1 dose of MMR vaccine if you were born in 1957 or later. You may also need a second dose.* People with weakened immune systems should not get MMR vaccine.
<b>Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> You are at increased risk for meningococcal disease because you do not have a functioning spleen. If you have never received MenACWY vaccine, you should receive 2 doses separated by 8 weeks, followed by a booster every 5 years.
<b>Meningococcal B (MenB)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> You are at increased risk for meningococcal type B disease because you do not have a functioning spleen. You will need to complete a series of MenB vaccine, 2 or 3 doses, depending on the brand. You will also need a booster 1 year after completion of the series, and then additional boosters every 2–3 years thereafter.
<b>Pneumococcal (PPSV23; PCV15, PCV20)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> Because you do not have a functioning spleen, you need to get either PCV20 alone, or PCV15 followed 1 year later by PPSV23. If you have previously received either PCV13 and/or PPSV23, your healthcare provider can determine what additional doses you may need.
<b>Tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough (pertussis) (Tdap, Td)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> If you have not received a dose of Tdap during your lifetime, you need to get a Tdap shot now. After that, you need a Tdap or Td booster dose every 10 years. Consult your healthcare provider if you haven't had at least 3 tetanus- and diphtheria-toxoid containing shots sometime in your life or if you have a deep or dirty wound.
<b>Varicella (Chickenpox)</b>	<b>Maybe.</b> If you have never had chickenpox, never were vaccinated, or were vaccinated but only received 1 dose, talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need this vaccine.* People with weakened immune systems should not get varicella vaccine.
<b>Zoster (shingles)</b>	<b>Yes!</b> If you are 19 or older and have a weakened immune system or are 50 or older, you should get a 2-dose series of the Shingrix brand of shingles vaccine, even if you were already vaccinated with Zostavax.

\* Consult your healthcare provider to determine your level of risk for infection and your need for this vaccine.

**Are you planning to travel outside the United States?** Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website at [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list) for travel information, or consult a travel clinic.