

Monovalent vaccine: Vaccine designed to vaccinate against a single antigen or organism

Natural immunity: Innate immunity or resistance to infection or toxicity

Passive immunity: Temporary immunity obtained by transfusing immunoglobulins or antitoxins either artificially from another human or an animal that has been actively immunized against an antigen or naturally from the mother to the fetus via the placenta

Polyvalent vaccine: Vaccine designed to vaccinate against multiple antigens or organisms (e.g., meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine [MCV4])

Specific immunoglobulins: Special preparations obtained from blood plasma from donor pools preselected for a high antibody content against a specific antigen (e.g., hepatitis B immune globulin [HBIG], varicella zoster immunoglobulin, rabies immunoglobulin, tetanus immunoglobulin [TIG], and cytomegalovirus immunoglobulin); as with Ig and IVIG, do not transmit hepatitis B virus (HBV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), or other infectious diseases

Toxoid: A modified bacterial toxin that has been made nontoxic but retains the ability to stimulate the formation of antitoxin

Vaccination: Originally referred to inoculation with vaccinia smallpox virus to make a person immune to smallpox; currently denotes physical act of administering any vaccine or toxoid

Vaccine: A suspension of live (usually attenuated) or inactivated microorganisms (e.g., bacteria, viruses, or rickettsiae) or fractions of the microorganism administered to induce immunity and prevent infectious disease or its sequelae

Schedule for Immunizations

In the United States, two organizations, the Committee on Infectious Diseases of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for