

Patient treated with an immunosuppressive drug
Excepting beta interferon and glatiramer acetate, all the other DMTs should be considered as immunosuppressive drugs

Important considerations

The situation will defer depending on the necessity to start the new DMT quickly and whether the patient is already treated with an immunosuppressive (IS) drug or not

If the patient is not already treated with IS and the initiation of the new DMT can be delayed for 4 to 6 weeks, it is recommended to perform required vaccinations (especially for live vaccines) before starting the treatment.

Before starting an immunosuppressive drug

If the patient is not already treated with IS, the following is recommended :

- ✓ Update the usual vaccine schedule
- ✓ Perform seasonal flu vaccination
- ✓ Ensure the patient has received a total of 2 MMR vaccine injection
- ✓ Perform anti pneumococcus vaccination : 13 valences vaccine injection followed by a 23 valences vaccine injection 2 months later (especially for anti CD20 therapies).
- ✓ Perform VZV vaccination in cas of negative serology
- ✓ Perform vaccination against hepatitis A in case of negative serology for frequent travelers patients
- ✓ Perform vaccination against hepatitis B in case of negative serology

After starting the treatment

Vaccine boosters for DTP should be performed every 10 years.

Perform anti pneumococcus vaccination if it has not been done before DMT initiation

Perform seasonal flu vaccination each year

Live attenuated vaccines are contraindicated in case of immunosuppression. This includes vaccination against MMR, VZV,

Yellow fever, tuberculosis, rotavirus as well as the intranasal seasonal flu vaccine.

Other vaccines can be performed although vaccinal response can be decreased in patients treated with immunosuppressive drugs.

When the treatment has been stopped

It is recommended to wait at least 3 months (6 months for intravenous anti CD20 therapies) before prescribing a live vaccine

Additional consideration:

It is also recommended to apply the vaccinal shedule, seasonal flu vaccination and VZV vaccination (in case of negative serology) for close contacts of the patient