

For Children and Adolescents Who Start Late or Who Are >1 Month Behind

The tables below give catch-up schedules and minimum intervals between doses for children who have delayed immunizations. There is no need to restart a vaccine series regardless of the time that has elapsed between doses. Use the chart appropriate for the child's age.

Catch-up schedule for children age 4 months through 6 years

Dose 1 (Minimum Age)	Minimum Interval Between Doses			
	Dose 1 to Dose 2	Dose 2 to Dose 3	Dose 3 to Dose 4	Dose 4 to Dose 5
DTaP (6 wk)	4 wk	4 wk	6 mo	6 mo ¹
IPV (6 wk)	4 wk	4 wk	4 wk ²	
HepB ³ (birth)	4 wk	8 wk (and 16 wk after first dose)		
MMR (12 mo)	4 wk ⁴			
Varicella (12 mo)				
Hib ⁵ (6 wk)	4 wk : if first dose given at age <12 mo 8 wk (as final dose) : if first dose given at age 12-14 mo No further doses needed : if first dose given at age ≥15 mo	4 wk ⁶ : if current age <12 mo 8 wk (as final dose) ⁶ : if current age ≥12 mo and second dose given at age <15 mo No further doses needed : if previous dose given at age ≥15 mo	8 wk (as final dose) : this dose only necessary for children age 12 mo–5 y who received 3 doses before age 12 mo	
PCV ⁷ : (6 wk)	4 wk : if first dose given at age <12 mo and current age <24 mo 8 wk (as final dose) : if first dose given at age ≥12 mo or current age 24–59 mo No further doses needed : for healthy children if first dose given at age ≥24 mo	4 wk : if current age <12 mo 8 wk (as final dose) : if current age ≥12 mo No further doses needed : for healthy children if previous dose given at age ≥24 mo	8 wk (as final dose) : this dose only necessary for children age 12 mo–5 y who received 3 doses before age 12 mo	

Catch-up schedule for children age 7 through 18 years

Minimum Interval Between Doses		
Dose 1 to Dose 2	Dose 2 to Dose 3	Dose 3 to Booster Dose
Td : 4 wk	Td : 6 mo	Td ⁸ : 6 mo : if first dose given at age <12 mo and current age <11 y 5 y : if first dose given at age ≥12 mo and third dose given at age <7 y and current age ≥11 y 10 y : if third dose given at age ≥7 y
IPV ⁹ : 4 wk	IPV ⁹ : 4 wk	IPV ^{2,9}
HepB : 4 wk	HepB : 8 wk (and 16 wk after first dose)	
MMR : 4 wk		
Varicella ¹⁰ : 4 wk		

- DTaP**: The fifth dose is not necessary if the fourth dose was given after the fourth birthday.
- IPV**: For children who received an all-IPV or all-oral poliovirus (OPV) series, a fourth dose is not necessary if third dose was given at age ≥4 years. If both OPV and IPV were given as part of a series, a total of 4 doses should be given, regardless of the child's current age.
- HepB**: All children and adolescents who have not been immunized against hepatitis B should begin the HepB immunization series during any visit. Providers should make special efforts to immunize children who were born in, or whose parents were born in, areas of the world where hepatitis B virus infection is moderately or highly endemic.
- MMR**: The second dose of MMR is recommended routinely at age 4 to 6 years but may be given earlier if desired.
- Hib**: Vaccine is not generally recommended for children age ≥5 years.
- Hib**: If current age <12 months and the first 2 doses were PRP-OMP (PedvaxHIB or ComVax [Merck]), the third (and final) dose should be given at age 12 to 15 months and at least 8 weeks after the second dose.
- PCV**: Vaccine is not generally recommended for children age ≥5 years.
- Td**: For children age 7 to 10 years, the interval between the third and booster dose is determined by the age when the first dose was given. For adolescents age 11 to 18 years, the interval is determined by the age when the third dose was given.
- IPV**: Vaccine is not generally recommended for persons age ≥18 years.
- Varicella**: Give 2-dose series to all susceptible adolescents age ≥13 years.

Reporting Adverse Reactions

Report adverse reactions to vaccines through the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System. For information on reporting reactions following immunization, please visit www.vaers.org or call the 24-hour national toll-free information line (800) 822-7967.

Disease Reporting

Report suspected cases of vaccine-preventable diseases to your state or local health department.

For additional information about vaccines, including precautions and contraindications for immunization and vaccine shortages, please visit the National Immunization Program Web site at www.cdc.gov/nip or call the National Immunization Information Hotline at 800-232-2522 (English) or 800-232-0233 (Spanish).