

Do You Vaccinate Adults? Think “H-A-L-O!”

H-A-L-O: the first step in deciding what vaccinations an adult patient needs

What is H-A-L-O? It’s an easy-to-use chart that lists factors in your patient’s **H**ealth condition, **A**ge, **L**ifestyle, and **O**ccupation that may make them a candidate for vaccination. In general, you’ll make a vaccination plan based on the presence of these factors. The only exception is the Td booster: every adult needs one every ten years.

How do I use H-A-L-O? While some of the factors can be easily determined (e.g., age, pregnancy), you will need to query the patient about the presence or absence of others. Once you determine which of the **H-A-L-O** factors apply, scan down each column to see

which vaccinations are possibly indicated (they are shown with a check mark). It will help you see at a glance if your patient might need vaccination.

Why is H-A-L-O just the first step? Not all patients who mention one or more **H-A-L-O** factors will need to be vaccinated. To make a final vaccination decision, always refer to the more detailed information in IAC’s *Summary of Recommendations for Adult Immunization*.



H-A-L-O checklist of factors that indicate a possible need for adult vaccination

Vaccine	Health factors				Age factors			Lifestyle factors					Occupational factors				
	Chronic disease	Pregnant	History of STD	Immunosuppressed (including HIV)	Adolescents and young adults	Age 50 & above	Age 65 and above	Born outside the U.S.	Men who have sex with men	Has had more than 1 sex partner in 6 mos	Injection drug user	International traveler	College student	Day care worker	Health care worker	Sewage worker	Prisoner
Hepatitis A	✓								✓		✓	✓					
Hepatitis B			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Influenza	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
PPV	✓			✓			✓										✓
MMR					✓			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		
Meningococcal					✓							✓	✓				
Varicella					✓			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Td	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓