

Vaccines for Your Preteen

April 2025

The following vaccinations will be recommended by your child's health care provider at his/her well-child visit before entering 7th grade:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, & Pertussis (Tdap): A single shot that will protect your child against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough).
- Meningococcal (MenACWY): A two-shot series, one dose at age 11-12 years, and another at age 16, that will protect your child against the bacteria that causes meningitis or sepsis (bloodstream infection).
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV): A two or three dose shot series, given over six – twelve months' time, that protects both boys and girls from cancers caused by this virus. This vaccine is most effective when administered before age 15.
- Hepatitis A: A two-shot series given over six months' time that protects against this viral liver disease. Your child should receive this vaccine now only if they did not previously receive it.
- Influenza (Flu): A yearly vaccination that will help protect your child from the flu.

Required Immunization Documentation

- Vermont's Immunization Rule requires documentation of one dose of Tdap vaccine before 7th grade entry. This is in addition to the vaccines required for entry into kindergarten through 6th grade. Also, residential students (living in dormitories) in grades 7 – 12 are required to have had one or two (age appropriate) doses of MenACWY vaccine.
- An official immunization record must be presented to the school before your child enters 7th grade. If a student doesn't meet the vaccine requirements, or have a current exemption on file, he/she may be temporarily admitted only after the approval of a school nurse or administrator. Failure to meet requirements may result in exclusion from school.



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