

Preteens need shots, too!

Call to schedule your child's preteen doctor visit today!

Remember to bring your child's immunization record card. The preteen doctor visit is key to a healthy start for adolescents. It's also the perfect opportunity to discuss ways to stay healthy, such as eating right, being active, and standing up to peer pressure. The doctor will also recommend immunizations to protect your child from some serious diseases. Some immunizations help strengthen your child's baby shots and others are new for preteens.

Shots for 11- to 12-year-olds

| Which vaccine? | Who and why? | Required by school law? (Unless you get a legal exemption*) |
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| Varicella (chickenpox) New! 2 doses now recommended | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For those who have never had chickenpox disease. • For those who only received 1 shot previously. • Why? Teens can be much sicker with chickenpox. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 shot needed for 7th grade. |
| Hepatitis B | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For those who have not already received this series of 3 shots. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 shots needed for 7th grade. |
| Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR or MMRV) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For those who only received 1 shot previously. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 measles shots needed for 7th grade. |
| New! Tetanus (Tdap or Td) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For preteens instead of the Td booster. • The new Tdap vaccine also protects against whooping cough. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 shot needed at age 11 or older. |
| New! Meningococcal (MCV4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For preteens before they go into 7th grade. • Protects against 3 of the 4 most common types of meningitis. | Not required by law but highly recommended. |
| New! HPV (human papillomavirus) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For girls starting around 11 years of age. • This new vaccine, given in a series of 3 shots, prevents most cervical cancer in adulthood. | |
| Influenza | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protects against flu (given each year). | |

*Legal exemption available for medical or conscientious reasons

Help your preteen relax during shots

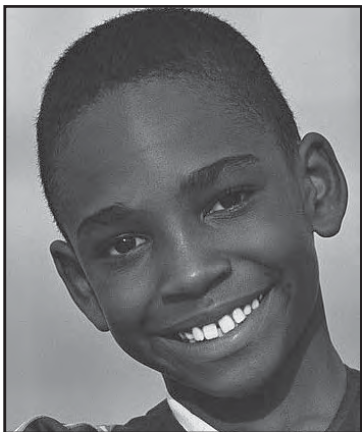
Encourage your preteen to:

- Bring along his/her favorite music
- Remember to breathe—take slow, deep breaths
- Make eye contact with you or another supportive person
- Close his/her eyes and think of a favorite place or activity
- Focus on something in the room, like a poster
- Tell you about a fun upcoming activity
- Remember that getting shots may sting a little, but it's much better than getting sick

New vaccines!

Make sure older teens get them too.

Several new vaccines may not have been available when your older kids were preteens. Check with your doctor or clinic to see if they need to catch up on their shots.



Pictures courtesy of Microsoft Office Online

Immunization Program
P.O. Box 64975
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
651-201-5503 or 1-800-657-3970
www.health.state.mn.us/immunize (2/08)

