



PHARMACY TECHNICIAN POCKET GUIDE: TDAP VACCINE

Who should receive the Tdap vaccine?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that all people age 11 and older should be assessed and receive the Tdap vaccine.¹

The ACIP recommends:

- **Adolescents 11-18 years of age** who have not been previously vaccinated with Tdap should receive a single dose of Tdap
- **All adults 19 years of age and older** who have not received Tdap should receive a single dose
- **Pregnant women** should get one dose of Tdap each pregnancy, preferred at 27 to 36 weeks of gestation
- Tdap is recommended over Td for **wound management** in patients 11 years of age and older who have not previously received Tdap
- **Anyone 11 years of age and older who has or will have close contact with a baby** 12 months of age and younger who has never received Tdap should receive a single dose
- **Healthcare professionals** who have not already received Tdap should receive a single dose

Please refer to the APhA Tdap Pharmacist Guide for contraindications and precautions. Refer to prescribing information for product-specific information.

If your patient fits any of these criteria, refer them to the pharmacist to further discuss Tdap vaccination.

ACIP=Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

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Important facts about pertussis:

- Persons with pertussis are most infectious through the first 2 weeks after the cough begins (approximately 21 days). Pertussis can be especially serious in young infants and can lead to death²
- Older siblings, parents, or caregivers may not know they are infected with pertussis and may unknowingly spread the disease to family, friends, and especially, infants³

The benefits of vaccinating in the pharmacy:

- Peace of mind knowing they have taken action to help prevent pertussis within their family
- Convenience of being vaccinated in the pharmacy, which may reduce the delay in making an appointment and result in less time spent at the physician's office

References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. Prevention of Pertussis, Tetanus, and Diphtheria with Vaccines in the United States: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). *MMWR Recomm Rep*. 2018;67(2):1-44.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases. Hamborsky J, Kroger A, Wolfe S, eds. 13th ed. Washington D.C. Public Health Foundation, 2015. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/index.html>. Reviewed May 16, 2018. Accessed April 22, 2019.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. Pertussis Frequently Asked Questions. <http://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/about/faqs.html>. Updated August 7, 2017. Accessed April 22, 2019.



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