



# **General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization, Part 2**

## **Vaccine Safety**

**Pink Book Web-on-Demand Series**  
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# Learning Objectives

- Describe the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices General Best Practice Guidelines on Immunization.
- Describe an emerging immunization issue.
- For each vaccine-preventable disease, identify those for whom routine immunization is recommended.
- For each vaccine-preventable disease, describe characteristics of the vaccine used to prevent the disease.
- Locate current immunization resources to increase knowledge of team's role in program implementation for improved team performance.
- Implement disease detection and prevention health care services (e.g., smoking cessation, weight reduction, diabetes screening, blood pressure screening, immunization services) to prevent health problems and maintain health.

# Continuing Education Information

- CE credit, go to: <https://tceols.cdc.gov/>
- Search course number: **WD4564-071922**
- CE credit expires: **July 1, 2024**
- CE instructions are available on the **Pink Book Web-on-Demand Series** web page
- Questions and additional help with the online CE system, e-mail [CE@cdc.gov](mailto:CE@cdc.gov)

The screenshot shows the TCEO website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the text "Training and Continuing Education Online (TCEO)". Below this is the TCEO logo, which consists of the letters "TCEO" in a bold, blue font, with a green circular arrow icon to the right. Underneath the logo, the text "TRAINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION ONLINE" is displayed in a smaller, blue font. On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with several blue buttons: "TCEO Home", "Search Courses", "Create Account", "9 Simple Steps to Earn CE", "Frequently Asked Questions", and "Contact TCEO". The main content area on the right has a white background and contains the following text:

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Below the text, there is a row of four small images: a woman smiling at a child, a man in a suit looking thoughtful, a doctor in a white coat holding a dog, and a woman sitting at a desk working on a laptop.

At the bottom of the page, there is a "Welcome to TCEO" message and a short paragraph: "Training and Continuing Education Online (TCEO) is a system that provides access to CDC educational activities for continuing education (CE). Use TCEO to search for CE opportunities, complete course..."

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# Disclosure Statements

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# General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization

- **ACIP Table of Contents**

- Introduction
- Methods
- Timing and spacing
- Contraindications and precautions
- Preventing and managing adverse reactions to immunization
- Vaccine administration
- Storage and handling
- Altered immunocompetence
- Special situations
- Vaccination records
- Vaccination programs
- Vaccine information sources

# General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization

## ■ **Contraindication**

- A condition in a recipient that increases the risk for a serious adverse reaction
- Action: Do **NOT** give the vaccine dose

## ■ **Precaution**

- A condition in a recipient that might increase the risk for a serious adverse reaction, might cause diagnostic confusion, or might compromise the ability of the vaccine to produce immunity
- Action: **DEFER** the vaccine dose

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**Screening**



# Screening

- **Specific questions intended to identify contraindications or precautions to vaccination**
- **Use of a standardized form will facilitate effective screening**
- **Screening must occur at every vaccination encounter (not just before the first dose)**
- **Following questions written from the perspective of the pediatric patient, but can be adjusted for the adult patient**

# Screening Questions

- **Is the child sick today?**
- **Does the child have an allergy to any medications, food, latex, or any vaccine?**
- **Has the child had a serious reaction to a vaccine in the past?**

# Screening Questions

- **Has the child had a seizure, brain, or nerve problem?**
- **Has the child had a long-term problem with heart, kidney, lung (including asthma) or metabolic disease (such as diabetes), or a blood disorder?**

# Screening Questions

- **Does the child have cancer (e.g., leukemia), HIV/AIDS, or any other immune system problem?**
- **Has the child taken prednisone, other steroids, or anticancer medications, or had x-ray treatments in the past 3 months?**

# Screening Questions

- **Has the child received a transfusion of blood or blood products, or been given a medicine called “immune (gamma) globulin” in the past year?**
- **Is the child/teen pregnant or is there a chance she could become pregnant during the next month?**
- **Has the child received vaccinations in the past 4 weeks?**

# Screening Checklist for Contraindications to Vaccines for Children and Teens

PATIENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
month / day / year

**For parents/guardians:** The following questions will help us determine which vaccines your child may be given today. If you answer "yes" to any question, it does not necessarily mean your child should not be vaccinated. It just means additional questions must be asked. If a question is not clear, please ask your healthcare provider to explain it.

	yes	no	don't know
1. Is the child sick today?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the child have allergies to medications, food, a vaccine component, or latex?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Has the child had a serious reaction to a vaccine in the past?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Does the child have a long-term health problem with lung, heart, kidney or metabolic disease (e.g., diabetes), asthma, a blood disorder, no spleen, complement component deficiency, a cochlear implant, or a spinal fluid leak? Is he/she on long-term aspirin therapy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. If the child to be vaccinated is 2 through 4 years of age, has a healthcare provider told you that the child had wheezing or asthma in the past 12 months?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. If your child is a baby, have you ever been told he or she has had intussusception?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Has the child, a sibling, or a parent had a seizure; has the child had brain or other nervous system problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Does the child have cancer, leukemia, HIV/AIDS, or any other immune system problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Does the child have a parent, brother, or sister with an immune system problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. In the past 3 months, has the child taken medications that affect the immune system such as prednisone, other steroids, or anticancer drugs; drugs for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, or psoriasis; or had radiation treatments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. In the past year, has the child received a transfusion of blood or blood products, or been given immune (gamma) globulin or an antiviral drug?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Is the child/teen pregnant or is there a chance she could become pregnant during the next month?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Has the child received vaccinations in the past 4 weeks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FORM COMPLETED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FORM REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Did you bring your immunization record card with you?    yes     no

It is important to have a personal record of your child's vaccinations. If you don't have one, ask the child's healthcare provider to give you one with all your child's vaccinations on it. Keep it in a safe place and bring it with you every time you seek medical care for your child. Your child will need this document to enter day care or school, for employment, or for international travel.



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[www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4060.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4060.pdf) • Item #P4060 (10/20)

## Information for Healthcare Professionals about the Screening Checklist for Contraindications to Vaccines (Children and Teens)

Are you interested in knowing why we included a certain question on the screening checklist? If so, read the information below. If you want to find out even more, consult the references in Notes below.

**NOTE:** For supporting documentation on the answers given below, go to the specific ACIP vaccine recommendation found at the following website: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html)

**NOTE:** For summary information on contraindications and precautions to vaccines, go to the ACIP's General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html)

**1. Is the child sick today?** [all vaccines]  
There is no evidence that acute illness reduces vaccine efficacy or increases vaccine adverse events. However, as a precaution with moderate or severe acute illness, all vaccines should be delayed until the illness has improved. Mild illnesses (such as otitis media, upper respiratory infections, and diarrhea) are NOT contraindications to vaccination. Do not withhold vaccination if a person is taking antibiotics.

2) Influenza vaccine (IV, LAIV, or RV): If CBS has occurred within 6 weeks of a prior influenza vaccination, vaccinate with IV if at high risk for severe influenza complications.

**2. Does the child have allergies to medications, food, a vaccine component, or latex?** [all vaccines]  
An anaphylactic reaction to latex is a contraindication to vaccines that contain latex as a component or as part of the packaging (e.g., vial stoppers, prefilled syringe plungers, prefilled syringe caps). If a person has anaphylaxis after eating gelatin, do not administer vaccines containing gelatin. A local reaction to a prior vaccine dose or vaccine component, including latex, is not a contraindication to a subsequent dose or vaccine containing that component. For information on vaccines supplied in vials or syringes containing latex, see [www.cdc.gov/vaccines-pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/latex-table.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines-pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/latex-table.pdf) for an extensive list of vaccine components, see [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/recipient-table-2.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/recipient-table-2.pdf). People with egg allergy of any severity can receive any recommended influenza vaccine (i.e., any IV, RV, or LAIV) that is otherwise appropriate for the patient's age and health status. With the exception of cGV and RV (which do not contain egg antigens), people with a history of severe allergic reaction to egg involving any symptom other than hives (e.g., angioedema, respiratory distress), or who required epinephrine or another emergency medical intervention, the vaccine should be administered in a medical setting, such as a clinic, health department, or physician office; vaccine administration should be supervised by a healthcare provider who is able to recognize and manage severe allergic conditions.

**3. Has the child had a serious reaction to a vaccine in the past?** [all vaccines]  
History of anaphylactic reaction (see question 2) to a previous dose of vaccine or vaccine component is a contraindication for subsequent doses. History of encephalopathy within 7 days following DTP/DaP is a contraindication for further doses of pertussis-containing vaccine. There are other adverse events that might have occurred following vaccination that constitute contraindications or precautions to future doses. Under normal circumstances, vaccines are deferred when a precaution is present. However, situations may arise when the benefit outweighs the risk (e.g., during a community pertussis outbreak).

**4. Does the child have a long-term health problem with lung, heart, kidney, or metabolic disease (e.g., diabetes), asthma, a blood disorder, no spleen, complement component deficiency, a cochlear implant, or a spinal fluid leak? Is he/she on long-term aspirin therapy?** [MMR, MMRV, LAIV, VAR]  
A history of thrombocytopenia or thrombocytopenic purpura is a precaution to MMR and MMRV vaccines. The safety of LAIV in children and teens with lung, heart, kidney, or metabolic disease (e.g., diabetes), or a blood disorder has not been established. These conditions, including asthma in children ages 5 years and older, should be considered precautions for the use of LAIV. Children with functional or anatomic asplenia, complement deficiency, cochlear implant, or CSF leak should not receive LAIV. Children on long-term aspirin therapy should not be given LAIV; instead, they should be given IV. Children with CSF leak, anatomic or functional asplenia, or cochlear implant, or on long-term aspirin therapy should not be given LAIV; instead, they should be given IV. Aspirin use is a precaution to VAR.

**5. If the child to be vaccinated is 2 through 4 years of age, has a healthcare provider told you that the child had wheezing or asthma in the past 12 months?** [LAIV]  
Children ages 2 through 4 years who have had a wheezing episode within the past 12 months should not be given LAIV. Instead, these children should be given IV.

**6. If your child is a baby, have you ever been told that he or she has had intussusception?** [Rotavirus]  
Infants who have a history of intussusception (i.e., the telescoping of one portion of the intestine into another) should not be given rotavirus vaccine.

**7. Has the child, a sibling, or a parent had a seizure; has the child had brain or other nervous system problem?** [DTPa, Td, Tdap, IIV, LAIV, MMRV]  
DTPa and Tdap are contraindicated in children who have a history of encephalopathy within 7 days following DTP/DaP. An unstable progressive neurologic problem is a precaution to the use of DTPa and Tdap. For children with stable neurologic disorders (including seizures) unrelated to vaccination, or for children with a family history of seizures, vaccinate as usual (exception: children with a personal or family [i.e., parent or sibling] history of seizures generally should not be vaccinated with MMRV; they should receive separate MMR and VAR vaccines). A history of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) is a consideration with the following: 1) Td/Tdap: If CBS has occurred within 6 weeks of a tetanus-containing vaccine and decision is made to continue vaccination, give Tdap instead of Td if no history of prior Tdap;

**8. Does the child have cancer, leukemia, HIV/AIDS, or any other immune system problem?** [LAIV, MMR, MMRV, VAR, IIV, LAIV]  
Live virus vaccines (e.g., MMR, MMRV, VAR, RV, LAIV) are usually contraindicated in immunocompromised children. However, there are exceptions. For example, MMR is recommended for asymptomatic HIV-infected children who do not have evidence of severe immunosuppression. Likewise, VAR should be considered for HIV-infected children age 12 months through 8 years with age-specific CD4+ T-lymphocyte counts of 15% or greater, or for children age 9 years or older with CD4+ T-lymphocyte counts of greater than or equal to 200 cell/µL. VAR should be administered (if indicated) to persons with isolated humoral immunodeficiency. Immunosuppressed children should not receive LAIV. Infants who have been diagnosed with severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) should not be given a live virus vaccine, including RV. Other forms of immunosuppression are a precaution, not a contraindication, to RV. For details, consult ACIP recommendations (see references in Notes above).

**9. Does the child have a parent, brother, or sister with an immune system problem?** [MMR, MMRV, VAR]  
MMR, VAR, and MMRV vaccines should not be given to a child or teen with a family history of congenital or hereditary immunodeficiency in first-degree relatives (i.e., parents, siblings) unless the immune competence of the potential vaccine recipient has been clinically substantiated or verified by a laboratory.

**10. In the past 3 months, has the child taken medications that affect the immune system such as prednisone, other steroids, or anticancer drugs; drugs for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, or psoriasis; or had radiation treatments?** [LAIV, MMR, MMRV, VAR]  
Live virus vaccines (e.g., LAIV, MMR, MMRV, VAR) should be postponed until after chemotherapy or long-term high-dose steroid therapy has ended. For details and length of time to postpone, consult the ACIP statement. Some immune mediator and immune modulator drugs (especially the antitumor-necrosis factor agents adalimumab, infliximab, and etanercept) may be immunosuppressive. A comprehensive list of immunosuppressive immune modulators is available from the CDC Health Information for International Travel (the "Yellow Book") available at [www.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2010/travelers-with-additional-considerations/immunocompromised-travelers](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2010/travelers-with-additional-considerations/immunocompromised-travelers). The use of live vaccines should be avoided in persons taking these drugs. To find specific vaccination schedules for stem cell transplant (bone marrow transplant) patients, see General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization (referenced in Notes above). LAIV, when recommended, can be given only to healthy non-pregnant people ages 2 through 49 years.

**11. In the past year, has the child received a transfusion of blood/blood products, or been given immune (gamma) globulin or an antiviral drug?** [MMR, MMRV, LAIV, VAR]  
Certain live virus vaccines (e.g., MMR, MMRV, LAIV, VAR) may need to be deferred, depending on several variables. Consult the most current ACIP recommendations (referenced in Notes above) for the most current information on intervals between antiviral drugs, immune globulin or blood product administration and live virus vaccines.

**12. Is the child/teen pregnant or is there a chance she could become pregnant during the next month?** [HPV, IPV, LAIV, MenB, MMR, MMRV, VAR]  
Live virus vaccines (e.g., MMR, MMRV, VAR, LAIV) are contraindicated one month before and during pregnancy because of the theoretical risk of virus transmission to the fetus. Sexually active young women who receive a live virus vaccine should be instructed to practice careful contraception for one month following receipt of the vaccine. On theoretical grounds, IPV and MenB should not be given during pregnancy; however, it may be given if there is a risk of exposure. IIV and Tdap are both recommended during pregnancy. HPV vaccine is not recommended during pregnancy.

**13. Has the child received vaccinations in the past 4 weeks?** [LAIV, MMR, MMRV, VAR, yellow fever]  
Children who were given either LAIV or an injectable live virus vaccine (e.g., MMR, MMRV, VAR, yellow fever) should wait 28 days before receiving another vaccination of this type (30 days for yellow fever vaccine). Inactivated vaccines may be given at the same time or at any spacing interval.

**VACCINE ABBREVIATIONS**  
LAIV = Live attenuated influenza vaccine  
HPV = Human papillomavirus vaccine  
IIV = Inactivated influenza vaccine  
cdIV = cell culture inactivated influenza vaccine  
IPV = Inactivated poliovirus vaccine  
MMR = Measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine  
MMRV = MMR-VAR vaccine  
RV = Recombinant influenza vaccine  
RV = Rotavirus vaccine  
Td/Tdap = Tetanus, diphtheria, (acellular pertussis) vaccine  
VAR = Varicella vaccine

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[www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4060.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4060.pdf) • Item #P4060 – page 2 (10/20)

# Invalid Contraindications and Precautions

- Disease exposure
- Mild illness or convalescence
- Preterm birth
- Breastfeeding
- Allergy to products not present in vaccine or allergy that is not severe (e.g., anaphylactic)
- Antibiotics therapy
- Pregnant person in the household
- Family history of adverse events after vaccination
- Tuberculin skin testing

# Invalid Contraindications

- **Mild illness**

- Vaccinate with
  - Low -grade fever
  - Upper respiratory infection
  - Otitis media
  - Mild diarrhea



# Household Contacts and Pregnancy

- **Susceptible household contacts of pregnant women**
  - *Should* receive MMR, varicella, zoster, and rotavirus vaccines
  - *Should* receive either non-live influenza vaccine or LAIV

# Invalid Contraindications

- **Preterm birth (less than 37 weeks)**
  - Generally, infants and children should be vaccinated according to chronologic age (not gestational age)
  - Use full recommended dose
  - Birth weight and size not factors but, as with all rules, there are exceptions (HepB)

# Family History of Adverse Events

- **Family history of adverse events after vaccination or medical conditions are generally NOT a contraindication**
- **Family history of a congenital immunosuppressive condition is a temporary contraindication to MMR and varicella vaccines**
  - Requires screening to assure the condition is not inherited prior to receipt of MMR and varicella vaccine
- **Family history can be a precaution**
  - Example: Family history of seizures is a precaution to MMRV

# Knowledge Check

- A pregnant woman living in a household is a contraindication to administering measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) or varicella (VAR) vaccines to a healthy child in the same household.
- A. True
- B. False



# Answer

- A pregnant woman living in the household is a contraindication to administering measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) or varicella (VAR) vaccines for a healthy child in the same household.
- B. False



# Screening Checklist

## Screening Checklist for Contraindications to Vaccines for Children and Teens

PATIENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
YEAR MONTH DAY

For parents/guardians: The following questions will help us determine which vaccines your child may be given today. If you answer "yes" to any question, it does not necessarily mean your child should not be vaccinated. It just means additional questions must be asked. If a question is not clear, please ask your health care provider to explain it.

	yes	no	don't know
1. Is the child sick today?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the child have allergies to medications, food, a vaccine component, or latex?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Has the child had a serious reaction to a vaccine in the past?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Has the child had a health problem with lung, heart, kidney or metabolic disease (e.g., diabetes), asthma, or a blood disorder in the past or long-term therapy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. If the child to be vaccinated is 2 through 4 years of age, has a health care provider told you that the child had wheezing or asthma in the past 12 months?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. If your child is a baby, have you ever been told he or she has had immunosuppression?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Has the child, a sibling, or a parent had a seizure has the child had brain or other nervous system problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Does the child or a family member have cancer, leukemia, HIV/AIDS, or any other immune system problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. In the past 3 months, has the child taken medications that affect the immune system such as prednisone, other steroids, or a cancer drug; drugs for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, or psoriasis; or had radiation treatment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. In the past year, has the child received a transfusion of blood or blood products, or been given immune (gamma) globulin or an antibody drug?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Is the child/teen pregnant or is there a chance she could become pregnant during the next month?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Has the child received vaccinations in the past 4 weeks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FORM COMPLETED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
FORM REVIEWED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you bring your immunization record card with you?  yes  no

It is important to have a personal record of your child's vaccinations. If you don't have one, ask the child's health care provider to give you one with all your child's vaccinations on it. Keep it in a safe place and bring it with you every time you seek medical care for your child. Your child will need this document to enter day care or school, for employment, or for international travel.

Additional copies ordered by the State of Minnesota at no charge.  
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www.immunize.org/help/4p-0060.pdf • form #P4060 (P/12)

## Information for Healthcare Professionals about the Screening Checklist for Contraindications (Children and Teens)

Are you interested in knowing why we included a certain question on the screening checklist? If so, read the information below. If you want to find out even more, consult the references listed at the end.

**1. Is the child sick today?**  
Vaccines should not be given to children who are currently ill with a fever or other acute illness. If a child is ill with a fever, it is recommended that the child wait until the fever has resolved before being vaccinated. For children with chronic conditions, such as asthma, it is recommended that the child wait until the condition is under control before being vaccinated.

**2. Does the child have allergies to medications, food, a vaccine component, or latex?**  
Allergic reactions to vaccine components are rare. However, children with severe allergies to medications, food, or latex should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**3. Has the child had a serious reaction to a vaccine in the past?**  
A serious allergic reaction to a vaccine component is a contraindication to further doses of that vaccine. However, children with other allergic conditions should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**4. Has the child had a health problem with lung, heart, kidney or metabolic disease (e.g., diabetes), asthma, or a blood disorder in the past or long-term therapy?**  
Children with chronic conditions should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**5. If the child to be vaccinated is 2 through 4 years of age, has a health care provider told you that the child had wheezing or asthma in the past 12 months?**  
Children with a history of wheezing or asthma should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**6. If your child is a baby, have you ever been told he or she has had immunosuppression?**  
Children with immunosuppression should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**7. Has the child, a sibling, or a parent had a seizure has the child had brain or other nervous system problems?**  
Children with a history of seizures should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**8. Does the child or a family member have cancer, leukemia, HIV/AIDS, or any other immune system problems?**  
Children with cancer, leukemia, HIV/AIDS, or other immune system problems should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**9. In the past 3 months, has the child taken medications that affect the immune system such as prednisone, other steroids, or a cancer drug; drugs for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, or psoriasis; or had radiation treatment?**  
Children taking immunosuppressive medications should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**10. In the past year, has the child received a transfusion of blood or blood products, or been given immune (gamma) globulin or an antibody drug?**  
Children receiving blood products or immune globulin should be vaccinated in a clinical setting with appropriate medical supervision.

**11. Is the child/teen pregnant or is there a chance she could become pregnant during the next month?**  
Vaccines should not be given to pregnant women or women who are planning to become pregnant.

**12. Has the child received vaccinations in the past 4 weeks?**  
Children who have recently received a vaccine should not receive another dose of that vaccine.

**REFERENCES**

1. CDC. General information for parents. [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/parents-complete.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/parents-complete.pdf).  
2. CDC. Live virus vaccines. [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines.pdf).  
3. CDC. Live virus vaccines: a guide for parents. [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf).  
4. CDC. Live virus vaccines: a guide for parents. [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf).  
5. CDC. Live virus vaccines: a guide for parents. [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf).  
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11. CDC. Live virus vaccines: a guide for parents. [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf).  
12. CDC. Live virus vaccines: a guide for parents. [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/p/live-virus-vaccines-a-guide-for-parents.pdf).

Immunization Action Coalition • Saint Paul, Minnesota • 651-547-9099 • www.immunize.org • www.mnstatefair.com  
www.immunize.org/help/4p-0060.pdf • form #P4060 – page 2 (P/12)

2

**Vaccine  
Safety**

# Comparison of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Annual Morbidity and Current Morbidity: Vaccine- Preventable Disease

Disease	20th Century Annual Morbidity <sup>†</sup>	2020 Reported Cases <sup>† †</sup>	Percent Decrease
Smallpox	29,005	0	100%
Diphtheria	21,053	1	> 99%
Measles	530,217	13	> 99%
Mumps	162,344	621	> 99%
Pertussis	200,752	5,398	97%
Polio (paralytic)	16,316	0	100%
Rubella	47,745	6	> 99%
Congenital Rubella Syndrome	152	0	100%
Tetanus	580	15	97%
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	20,000	11*	> 99%

<sup>†</sup> JAMA. 2007;298(18):2155-2163

<sup>† †</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System, Weekly Tables of Infectious Disease Data. Atlanta, GA. CDC Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance. Available at:

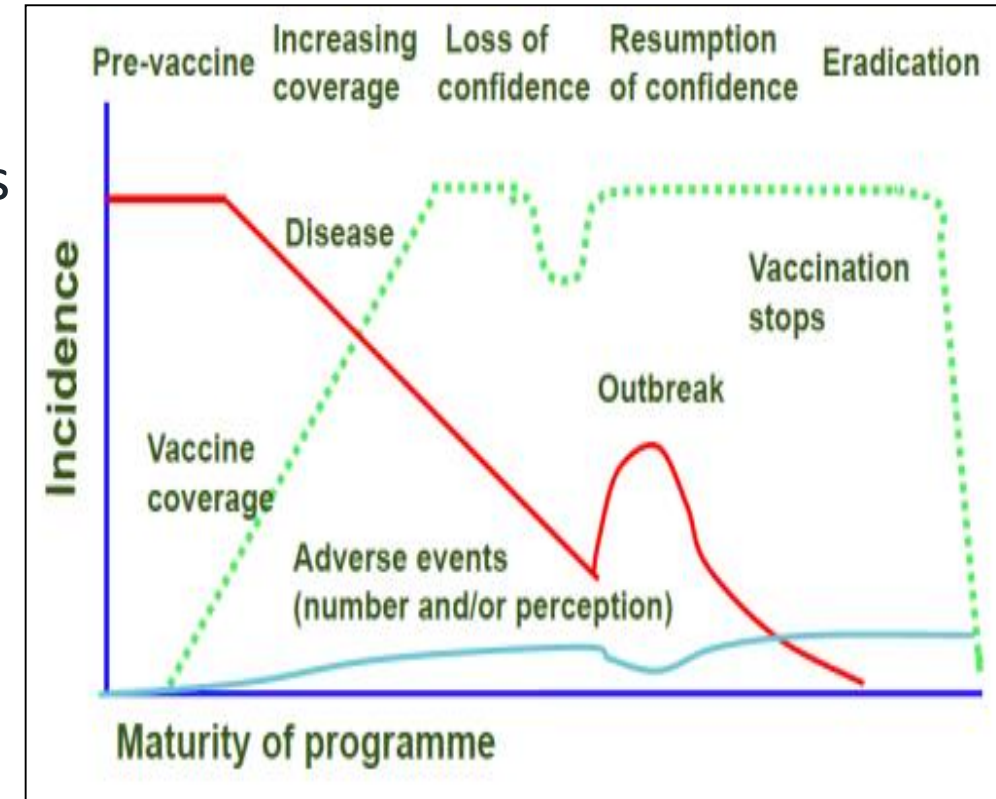
[https://wonder.cdc.gov/nndss/nndss\\_weekly\\_tables\\_menu.asp?mmwr\\_year=2020&mmwr\\_week=53](https://wonder.cdc.gov/nndss/nndss_weekly_tables_menu.asp?mmwr_year=2020&mmwr_week=53). Accessed on January 7, 2021.

\* *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) < 5 years of age. An additional 7 cases of Hib are estimated to have occurred among the 136 notifications of *Haemophilus influenzae* (< 5 years of age) with unknown serotype.



# Importance of Vaccine Safety

- Decreases in disease risks and increased attention on vaccine risks
- Public confidence in vaccine safety is critical
  - Higher standard of safety is expected of vaccines
  - Vaccines generally healthy (vs. ill for medications)
  - Lower risk tolerance = need to search for rare reactions
  - Vaccination universally recommended and mandated



# What is “Safe”?

- **SAFE = No harm from the vaccine**
  - No vaccine is 100% safe
- **SAFE = No harm from the disease**
  - No vaccine is 100% effective
- **Remind parents that to do nothing is to take a risk**

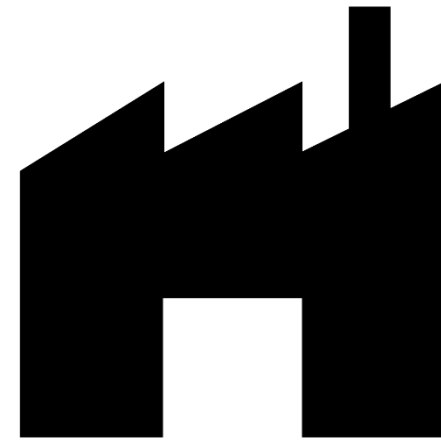
# Pre-clinical Vaccine Safety Studies

- Laboratory
- Animals



# Prelicensure Human Studies

- Phase I, II, III trials
- Phase III trials usually include a control group that receives a placebo
- Common adverse reactions are identified
- Most Phase III trials include 2,000 to 5,000 participants
- Largest recent Phase III trial was REST (rotavirus) – around 70,000 infants



# Post-licensure Vaccine Safety Monitoring

- Identify rare adverse reactions
- Monitor increases in known adverse reactions—identify risk factors for reactions
- Identify vaccine lots with increased rates of reactions
- Identify “signals”—reports of adverse events more numerous than would be expected

# The Vaccine Life Cycle

## GUIDE

### ACIP

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES

### BLA

BIOLOGICS LICENSE APPLICATION

### CDC

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

### FDA

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

### IND

INVESTIGATIONAL NEW DRUG APPLICATION

### NDA

NEW DRUG APPLICATION

## VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

CDC + FDA  
Safety  
Monitoring  
Begins

Safety  
is Part of  
Every  
Vaccine

BASIC RESEARCH

DISCOVERY

PRE-CLINICAL STUDIES

IND SUBMITTED

PHASE 1  
20-100  
Participants

PHASE 2  
100-300  
Participants

PHASE 3  
300-3000  
Participants

CLINICAL TRIALS

NDA/BLA SUBMITTED

FDA REVIEW

FDA APPROVAL OF 1 NEW VACCINE

ACIP REVIEW

ACIP RECOMMENDATION

POST-APPROVAL MONITORING + RESEARCH

PHASE 4  
Thousands of Participants

3

**Federal  
Vaccine  
Safety  
Monitoring**

# VAERS is the nation's early warning system for vaccine safety



## VAERS

### Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System

Primarily a safety signal detection and hypothesis generating system

<http://vaers.hhs.gov>





# VAERS

VAERS accepts all reports from everyone regardless of the plausibility of the vaccine causing the event or the clinical seriousness of the event

## key strengths

- Rapidly detects potential safety problems
- Can detect rare adverse events

## key limitations

- Inconsistent quality and completeness of information
- **Generally, cannot determine cause and effect**

# Limitations of VAERS Database

	Adverse event	No adverse event
Individual vaccinated	Vaccinated with adverse event and reported to VAERS	Vaccinated no adverse event
Individual not vaccinated	Not vaccinated with adverse event	Not vaccinated no adverse event

- ❑ **VAERS only contains partial data in pink cell (incomplete population data)**
  - Not able to calculate rates of occurrence of adverse events
  - Not able to determine increased risk for adverse events

# Which Adverse Events Should be Reported to VAERS?

- Required reporting for healthcare providers<sup>1</sup>:
  - Any adverse event listed by the vaccine manufacturer as a contraindication to further doses of the vaccine
  - Any adverse event listed in the VAERS Reportable Events Table<sup>2</sup> following vaccination that occurs within the specified time period after vaccination
  
- Healthcare providers are encouraged to report any clinically significant or unexpected adverse events (AEs) following any vaccination

<sup>1</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act

<sup>2</sup> The Reportable Events Table reflects what is reportable by law (42 USC 300aa-25) to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).

[https://vaers.hhs.gov/resources/VAERS\\_Table\\_of\\_Reportable\\_Events\\_Following\\_Vaccination.pdf](https://vaers.hhs.gov/resources/VAERS_Table_of_Reportable_Events_Following_Vaccination.pdf)

# Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) and VAERS Reporting Form

## ■ VAERS reporting methods

- Option 1: online reporting tool (preferred)
- Option 2: writable PDF form combined with electronic document upload capability

**VAERS Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System**  
www.vaers.hhs.gov

Adverse events are possible reactions or problems that occur during or after vaccination. Items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 17, 18 and 21 are **ESSENTIAL** and should be completed. Patient identity is kept confidential. Instructions are provided on the last two pages.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE PATIENT WHO RECEIVED THE VACCINE** (Use Continuation Page if needed.)

1. Patient name: (first) \_\_\_\_\_ (last) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Date of birth: (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Sex:  Male  Female  Unknown

4. Date and time of vaccination: (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ Time: hh:mm \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM

5. Date and time adverse event started: (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_ Time: hh:mm \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM

6. Age at vaccination: \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_ Months 7. Today's date: (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

8. Is the report about vaccine(s) given to a pregnant woman?:  No  Unknown  Yes  
(If yes, describe the event, any pregnancy complications, and estimated due date if known in item 18).

9. Prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, dietary supplements, or herbal remedies being taken at the time of vaccination: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Allergies to medications, food, or other products: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Other illnesses at the time of vaccination and up to one month prior: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Chronic or long-standing health conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM**

13. Form completed by: (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Relation to patient:  Healthcare professional/staff  Patient (yourself)  
 Parent/guardian/caregiver  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street address: \_\_\_\_\_  Check if same as item 1.  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

14. Best doctor/healthcare professional to contact about the adverse event: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Ext: \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE FACILITY WHERE VACCINE WAS GIVEN**

15. Facility/clinic name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street address: \_\_\_\_\_  Check if same as item 13.  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

16. Type of facility: (Check one).  
 Doctor's office or hospital  
 Pharmacy or drug store  
 Workplace clinic  
 Public health clinic  
 Nursing home or senior living facility  
 School/student health clinic  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Unknown

**WHICH VACCINES WERE GIVEN? WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PATIENT?**

17. Enter all vaccines given on the date listed in item 4: (Route is HOW vaccine was given, Body site is WHERE vaccine was given). Use Continuation Page if needed.

Vaccine (type and brand name)	Manufacturer	Lot number	Route	Body site	Dose no. in series
select	select	select	select	select	select
select	select	select	select	select	select
select	select	select	select	select	select
select	select	select	select	select	select

18. Describe the adverse event(s), treatment, and outcome(s), if any: (symptoms, signs, time course, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Use Continuation Page if needed.

19. Medical tests and laboratory results related to the adverse event(s): (include dates) \_\_\_\_\_  
Use Continuation Page if needed.

20. Has the patient recovered from the adverse event(s)?  Yes  No  Unknown

21. Result or outcome of adverse event(s): (Check all that apply).  
 Doctor or other healthcare professional office/clinic visit  
 Emergency room or emergency department visit  
 Hospitalization: Number of days (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Hospital name: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Prolongation of existing hospitalization (vaccine received during existing hospitalization)  
 Life threatening illness (immediate risk of death from the event)  
 Disability or permanent damage  
 Patient died: Date of death \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy)  
 Congenital anomaly or birth defect  
 None of the above

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** (Use Continuation Page if needed.)

22. Any other vaccines received within one month prior to the date listed in item 4:

Vaccine (type and brand name)	Manufacturer	Lot number	Route	Body site	Dose no. in series
select	select	select	select	select	select
select	select	select	select	select	select

23. Has the patient ever had an adverse event following any previous vaccine?: (If yes, describe adverse event, patient age at vaccination, vaccination dates, vaccine type, and brand name).  
 No  Unknown  Yes

24. Patient's race:  American Indian or Alaska Native  Asian  Black or African American  Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  
(Check all that apply).  White  Unknown  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

25. Patient's ethnicity:  Hispanic or Latino  Not Hispanic or Latino  Unknown

26. Immuniz. proj. report no.: (Health Dept use only) \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLETE ONLY FOR U.S. MILITARY/DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD) RELATED REPORTS**

27. Status at vaccination:  Active duty  Reserve  National Guard  Beneficiary  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

28. Vaccinated at Military/DoD site:  Yes  No

FORM FDA VAERS-2.0 (8/17) SAVE

# VAERS (Additional Information)

- **Instructions for reporting to VAERS at**
  - <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>
- **Additional assistance**
  - Email at [info@vaers.org](mailto:info@vaers.org)
  - Phone at 1-800-822-7967

# Knowledge Check

- **The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) can be used to establish a causal association between a vaccine and an adverse event.**
- A. True
- B. False



# Answer

- The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) can be used to establish a causal association between a vaccine and an adverse event.
- B. False



# Post-Licensure Vaccine Safety Activities

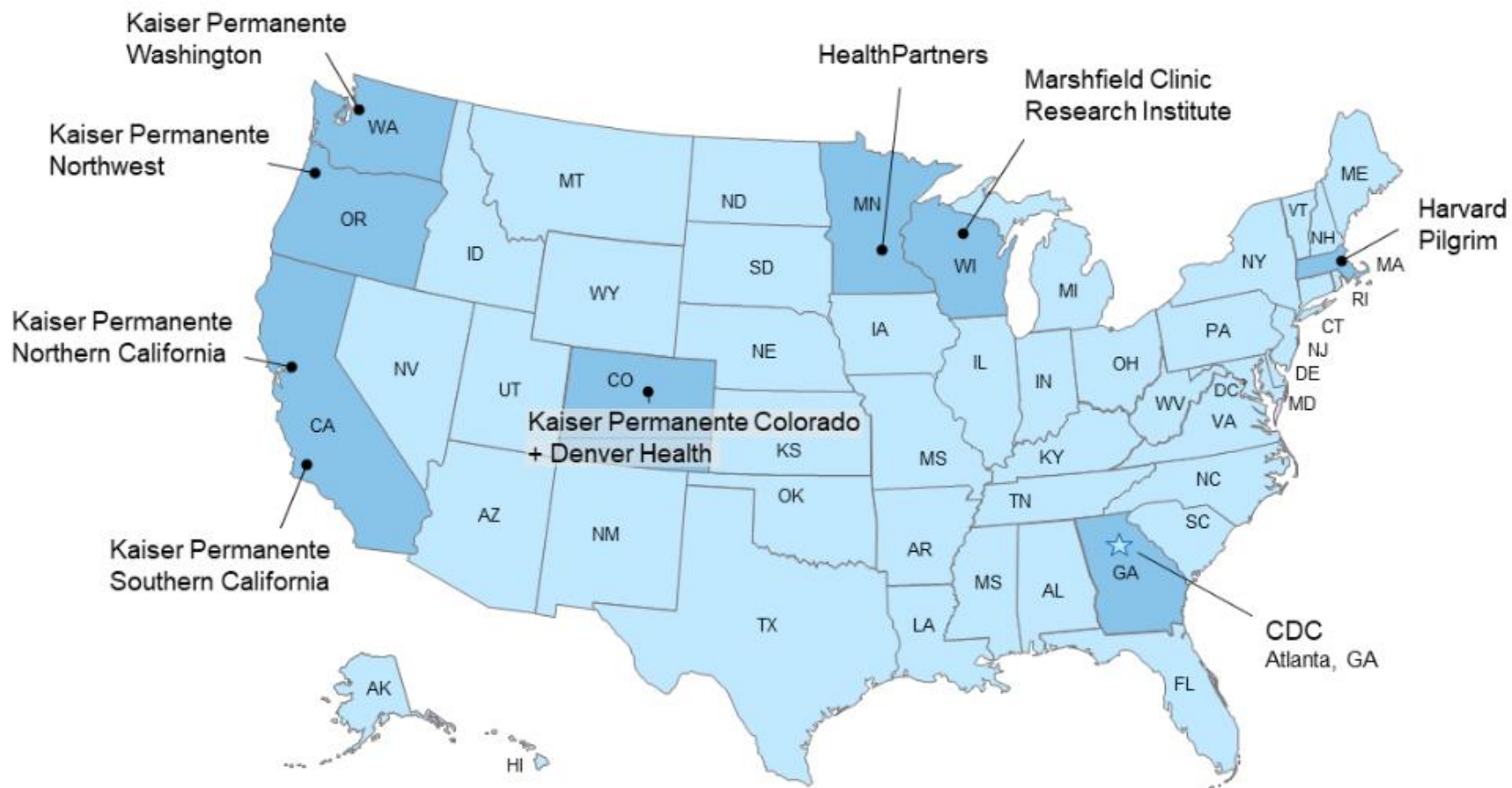
- **Phase IV trials**
  - ~10,000 participants
  - Better but still limited
- **Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD)**
- **Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment Project (CISA)**





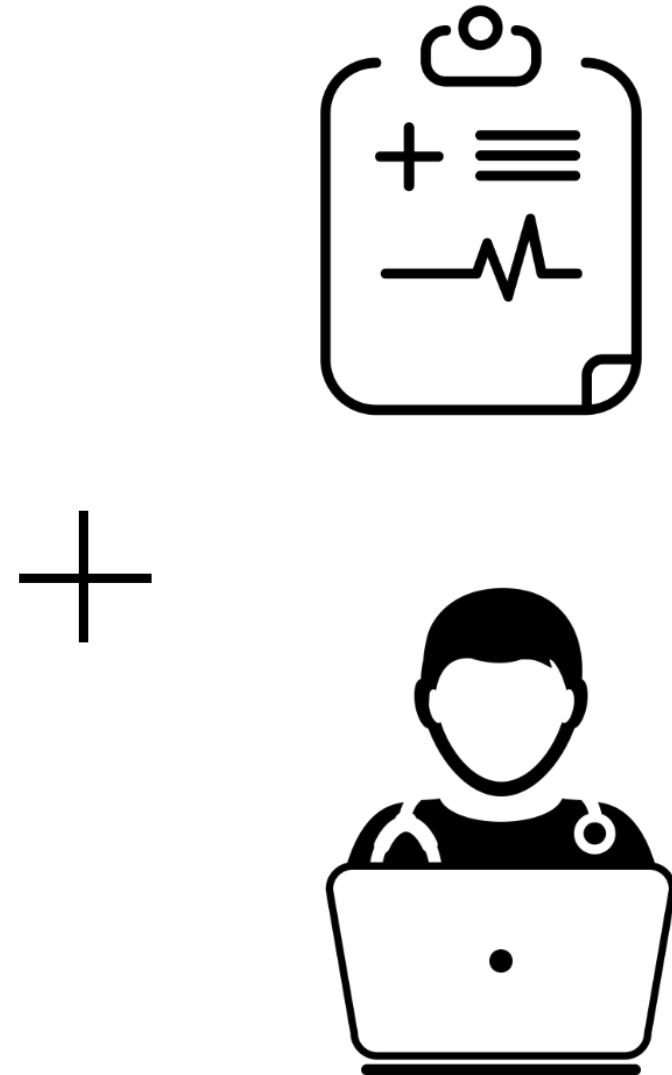
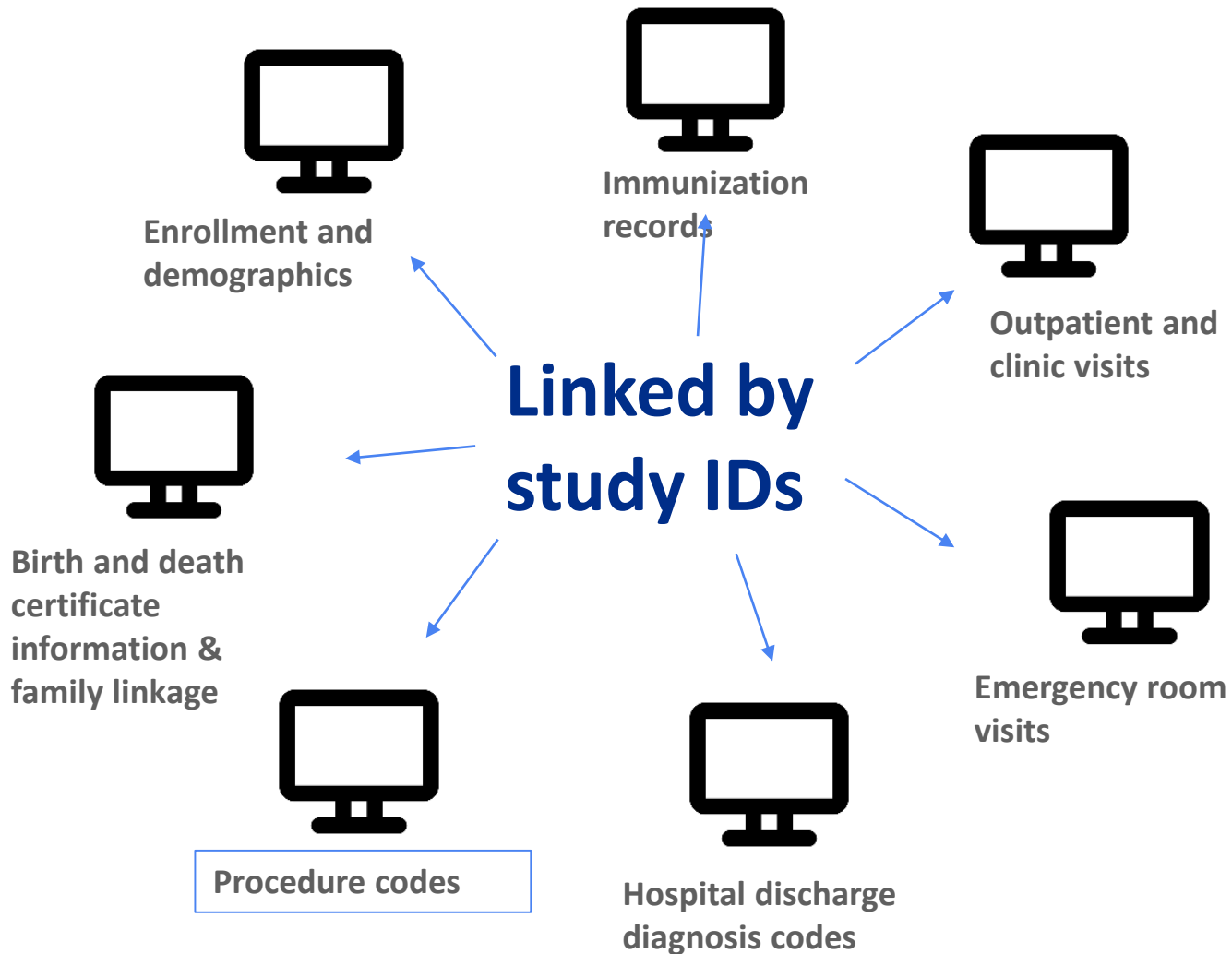
# VSD

## Vaccine Safety Datalink



- 9 participating integrated healthcare organizations
- Data on over **12 million** persons per year

# VSD electronic files + chart review

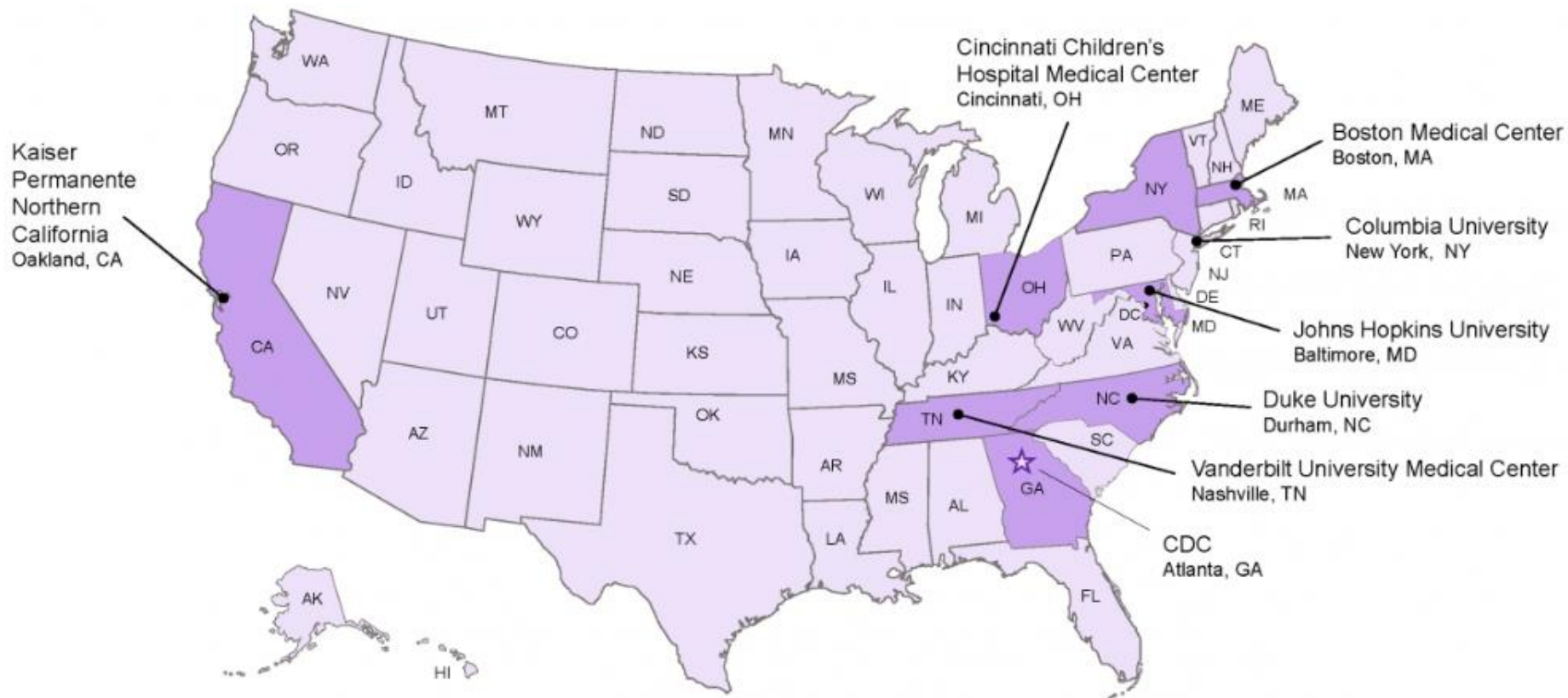




# CISA

## Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment (CISA) Project

7 participating medical research centers with vaccine safety experts



- clinical consult services\*  
[CISAEval@cdc.gov](mailto:CISAEval@cdc.gov)
- clinical research

\*More information about clinical consults available at  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Activities/CISA.html>

# National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

- Established by National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (1986)
- “No fault” program
- Covers all routinely recommended childhood vaccines
- Vaccine Injury Table
  - <https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/vaccine-compensation/vaccine-injury-table.pdf>

[www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation/index.html](https://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation/index.html)



Health Resources & Services Administration | Bureaus and Offices | Newsroom | A-Z Index | Contact HRSA

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Health Resources & Services Administration

Home | Grants | Loans & Scholarships | Data Warehouse | Training & TA Hub | About HRSA

Home » National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

### VICP Home

- About the Program
- Covered Vaccines
- Who Can File a Petition
- How to File a Petition
- Vaccine Injury Compensation Data
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Resources
- Job and Advisory Committee Opportunities

## National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

### COVID-19 Claims

For claims associated with the COVID-19 vaccine or other COVID-19 related countermeasures, please file your Request for Benefits with the [Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program](#).

### Electronic filing now available for HRSA Injury Compensation Programs

Copy of your VICP Petition

HRSA Injury Compensation Programs

Visit Injury Compensation Program's New Site!  
E-file with VICP or CICP at [injurycompensation.hrsa.gov](https://injurycompensation.hrsa.gov).

Vaccines save lives by preventing disease.

Most people who get vaccines have no serious problems. Vaccines, like any medicines, can cause side effects, but most are very rare and very mild. Some health problems that follow

# The Provider's Role

- **Immunization providers can help ensure the safety and efficacy of vaccines through proper**
  - Vaccine storage and administration
  - Timing and spacing of vaccine doses
  - Screening of contraindications and precautions
  - Management of adverse reactions
  - Reporting to VAERS
  - Benefit and risk communication

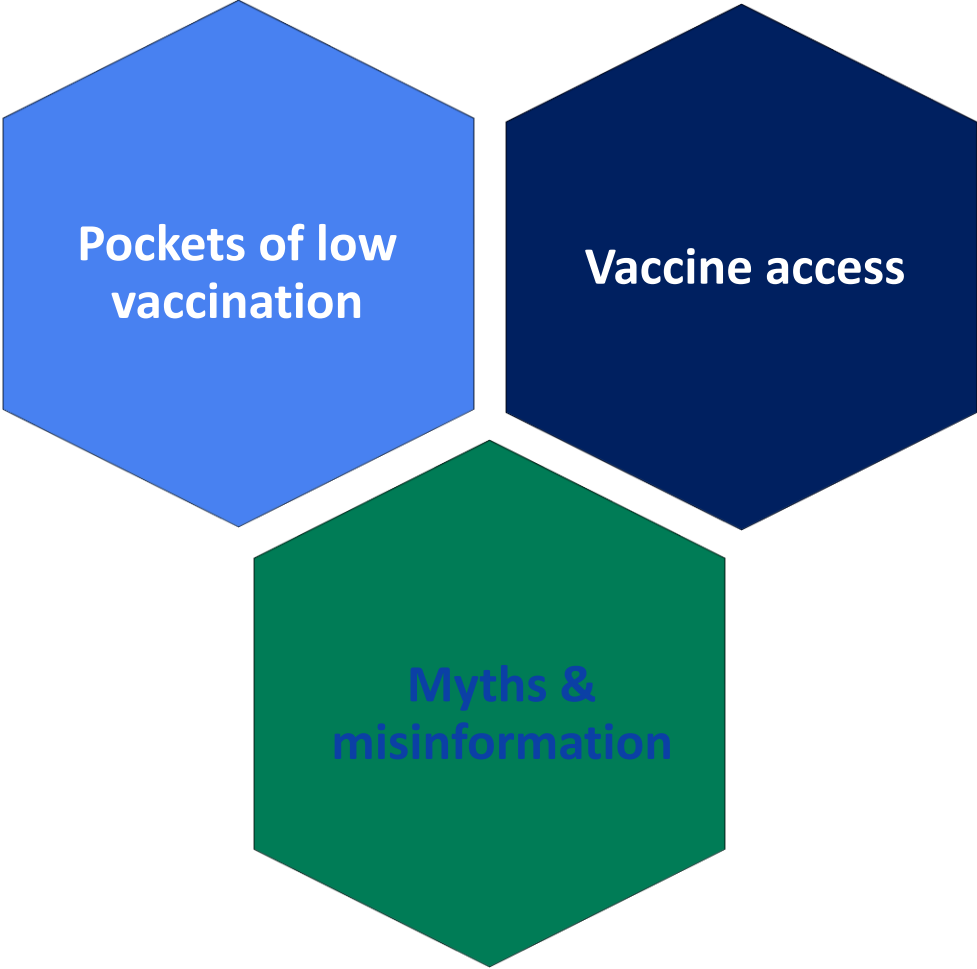
# Benefit and Risk Communication

- **Opportunities for questions should be provided before each vaccination**
  
- **Vaccine information statements (VISs)**
  - Must be provided before each dose of vaccine
  
  - Public and private providers
  
  - CDC provides English versions at [Vaccine Information Statement | Current VISs | CDC](#)
  
  - Available in multiple languages at [Vaccine Information Statements - VISs - CDC information sheets for patients \(immunize.org\)](#)

4

**Vaccinate  
with  
Confidence**

# Vaccinate with Confidence: Responding to dynamics shared by recent outbreaks







# Vaccinate with **Confidence**

---

*Protect communities. Empower families. Stop myths.*

*Vaccinate with Confidence* is CDC's strategic framework for strengthening vaccine confidence and preventing outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in the United States



# Vaccinate with **Confidence**

*Protect communities. Empower families. Stop myths.*

## ■ ***Protect communities***

- Use every tool available to find and protect communities at risk using tailored, targeted approaches.

## ■ ***Empower families***

- Ensure parents are confident in decision to vaccinate by strengthening provider-parent vaccine conversations.

## ■ ***Stop myths***

- Use local partners and trusted messengers, establish new partnerships to contain the spread of misinformation, and educate critical stakeholders about vaccines.

# Continuing Education Information

- CE credit, go to: <https://tceols.cdc.gov/>
- Search course number: **WD4564-071922**
- CE credit expires: **July 1, 2024**
- CE instructions are available on the **Pink Book Web-on-Demand Series** web page
- Questions and additional help with the online CE system, e-mail [CE@cdc.gov](mailto:CE@cdc.gov)

The screenshot shows the TCEO website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the text "Training and Continuing Education Online (TCEO)". Below this is the TCEO logo, which consists of the letters "TCEO" in a bold, blue font, with a green circular arrow icon to the right. Underneath the logo, the text "TRAINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION ONLINE" is displayed in a smaller, blue font. To the left of the main content area is a vertical navigation menu with several blue buttons: "TCEO Home", "Search Courses", "Create Account", "9 Simple Steps to Earn CE", "Frequently Asked Questions", and "Contact TCEO". The main content area has a white background and contains the following sections:

- New to TCEO?**  
Visit [Create Account](#). Once your account has been created, you will be able to search for courses and complete requirements to receive CE.
- Already have a TCEO account from the previous system?**  
To move your account to the new system please sign in above using your existing TCEO username and password. Once signed in, follow the prompts to verify and update your account. After your account is verified, you will use this email address and password to sign in.
- Not sure how to get started?**  
Follow these [9 Simple Steps](#) to earn continuing education for the courses you have taken or conferences you have attended!

Below the text is a row of four small images: a woman smiling at a child, a man in a suit looking thoughtful, a doctor in a white coat holding a dog, and a woman sitting at a desk working on a laptop.

At the bottom of the page, there is a "Welcome to TCEO" message and a short paragraph: "Training and Continuing Education Online (TCEO) is a system that provides access to CDC educational activities for continuing education (CE). Use TCEO to search for CE opportunities, complete course..."

# E-mail Your Immunization Questions to Us

- [NIPINFO@cdc.gov](mailto:NIPINFO@cdc.gov)



# Thank You From Atlanta!

