

PRETEENS NEED VACCINES TOO!



Doctors recommend that preteens receive additional immunizations when they are 11 or 12 years of age. Preteens are at an age where they're becoming more independent. Seeing a health care professional now will help them make better health decisions in the future. The preteen doctor visit is an excellent time to discuss the challenges of growing up such as peer pressure and preventive measures such as eating right and getting immunized.



The following immunizations are recommended for 11 and 12 year-olds:

- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV) that protects against certain serious types of bacterial meningitis and other related infections
- Tetanus booster (Tdap) that also protects against diphtheria and whooping cough (pertussis)
- Human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV4 or HPV2) protects girls against HPV types that cause most cases of cervical cancer and pre-cancer. HPV4 vaccine also protects against most HPV types that cause genital warts. Boys may also get the HPV4 vaccine to protect against genital warts.
- Chickenpox (varicella) vaccine, unless they have received 2 doses as a child or have had chickenpox
- Hepatitis A vaccine is recommended for children and adolescents living in California because of historically higher rates of hepatitis A in the state.
- An influenza (flu) vaccine every year.

- [Preteens Need Additional Immunizations](#) (Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Immunization Program)
- [What Shots Does My Adolescent Need, and When?](#) (California State Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch) (exit)
- [Preteen Doctor Visit Brochure](#) [Español](#) (Spanish) (California State Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch) (exit)
- [Pre-teens and Adolescents, What Parents, Pre-teens, and Adolescents Should Know](#) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]) (exit)