

# A Quick Look at Using Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) Vaccine

<p><b>Tdap Vaccines:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Boostrix®: for persons aged 10 years and older</li><li>• Adacel®: for persons aged 11 through 64 years</li></ul> <p><b>Routine Indications for Use and Schedule:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administer a <b>single booster dose</b> to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Adolescents aged 11-12 years (who have completed a DTaP series prior to age 7 years)</li><li>- Persons aged &gt;13 years who have not received 1 dose</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>Minimum interval*:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is no minimum interval between the last dose of a tetanus- or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccine and a dose of Tdap</li></ul>	<p><b>Vaccine Administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intramuscular (IM) injection in the deltoid of the arm</li><li>• 1-1.5 inch, 22-25 gauge needle</li><li>• Use professional judgment when selecting needle length</li><li>• Can be given simultaneously with other vaccines</li></ul> <p><b>Storage and Handling</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Store in the refrigerator between 35°- 46° F (2°-8° C)</li><li>• Do NOT freeze</li></ul>
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## SPECIAL SITUATIONS

### *Catch-up Recommendations for Children aged 7-10 Years*

- For children with an incomplete DTaP/Td series or who have an unknown history of DTaP/Td vaccination:
  - Give one dose of Tdap (preferably for the 1<sup>st</sup> dose, if more than one dose is needed)
  - Use Td vaccine for any additional doses (possibly 1-2) necessary to complete a primary series; Use appropriate minimum intervals

### *Routine Catch-Up Schedule for Persons aged 11 Years and Older*

- 3 doses (primary series) of tetanus & diphtheria containing vaccine are needed before a booster dose is effective
- Tdap should be substituted for a single dose of Td in the catch-up series; Use Td for the other doses; Use appropriate minimum intervals

### *Recommendations for Persons aged 65 Years and Older*

- For persons aged 65 years and older who expect to have close contact with an infant less than age 12 months
  - Give one dose of Tdap, unless a previous dose of Tdap has been given (no minimum interval from last Td booster dose)
- Persons aged 65 years and older who have not received a Tdap, may receive 1 dose of Tdap in place of their next Td booster dose

### *NEW! Recommendations for Pregnant Women (all ages)*

- Administer Tdap to pregnant women after 20 weeks gestation, if a previous dose was not given
  - If Tdap is not administered during preconception or pregnancy, it should be given immediately postpartum

### *Wound Care (for wounds that are not clean and/or not minor)*

- Administer Tdap to persons aged 10 through 64 years who:
  - Have not received any tetanus-containing vaccine in the last 5 years and
  - Have not received a previous dose of Tdap vaccine
- For children aged 7-9 years or persons aged 65 years & older, Tdap may be given in place of a Td vaccine for wound care if use of a pertussis-containing vaccine is also indicated (see new recommendations for these age groups)
- Ensure children aged 6 weeks through 6 years are up-to-date with an age appropriate DTaP series

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Allergic reaction to a previous dose of DTaP/Td vaccine or a component of the vaccines
- Encephalopathy not due to another cause within 7 days after vaccination with a pertussis-containing vaccine

## PRECAUTIONS

- Moderate or severe illness
- History of Guillain-Barré within 6 weeks of a tetanus-containing vaccine
- Progressive or unstable neurological disorder
- History of a severe arthus-type reaction after a previous dose of a tetanus or diphtheria containing vaccine including MCV4

## FURTHER POINTS

- In situations where Tdap is indicated, either brand of Tdap vaccine (Adacel or Boostrix) may be used for persons age 7-10 yrs & 65 yrs and older
- To best protect infants under age 12 months it is important that all persons who will be caring for these children are vaccinated with Tdap at least 2 weeks before contact. Women who intend to become pregnant should be assessed and vaccinated with Tdap at a preconception visit.

\* While longer intervals between Td and Tdap vaccination could decrease the occurrence of local reactions (pain, redness, swelling), consider if the benefits of protection against pertussis outweigh the potential risk of these adverse events

Refer to MMWRs: "Updated Recommendations for Use of Tdap Vaccine from the ACIP, 2010", 1/14/11; further information is available at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines) on recommendations for use of Td/Tdap in Adolescents, Adults, and Pregnancy.

This document was adapted with permission from the Michigan Department of Community Health.