

BUREAU OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES DIVISION OF IMMUNIZATIONS HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL IMMUNIZATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Healthcare personnel (HCP) are at greatest risk for exposure to, and possible transmission of, vaccine-preventable diseases. Completion of all recommended immunizations protects healthcare personnel and their patients from these diseases.

The following recommendations are advised by the Pennsylvania Department of Health:

HCP should be immune to:

Measles, Mumps and Rubella:

Evidence of immunity includes any of the following:

- Written documentation of vaccination with 2 doses of live MMR vaccine administered at least 28 days apart,
- Laboratory evidence of immunity,
- Laboratory confirmation of disease,
- Birth before 1957 is still evidence of immunity, but facilities should consider vaccinating health-care providers born before 1957 who have no other criterion for immunity with two doses of MMR vaccine. In an outbreak of measles two doses of MMR vaccine are recommended and during a rubella outbreak one dose of MMR vaccine is recommended for health-care providers born before 1957.

Varicella:

Evidence of immunity includes any of the following:

- Written documentation of vaccination with 2 doses of varicella vaccine,
- Laboratory evidence of immunity or laboratory confirmation of disease,
- Diagnosis or verification of a history of varicella disease by a healthcare provider, or
- Diagnosis or verification of a history of herpes zoster by a healthcare provider.

Pertussis:

- A single dose of Tdap as soon as feasible if not previously received. Tdap can be administered regardless of interval since last tetanus or diphtheria-containing vaccine.

Hepatitis B:

- All unvaccinated persons whose work and training related activities involve reasonably anticipated risk for exposure to blood or other infectious body fluids should be vaccinated with the complete three-dose Hepatitis B vaccine series.

Influenza:

- Annual vaccination for all HCP including those with no direct patient care duties.

Meningitis:

- Vaccination every 5 years for high risk groups (i.e. exposure to *Neisseria meningitidis*)