

Before you vaccinate adults, consider their “H-A-L-O”!

What is H-A-L-O? As shown below, it’s an easy-to-use chart that can help you make an *initial* decision about vaccinating a patient based on four factors—the patient’s **H**ealth condition, **A**ge, **L**ifestyle, and **O**ccupation. In some situations, though, you can vaccinate a patient without considering these factors. For example, all adults need a Td booster every 10 years, and any adult who wants protection against influenza, hepatitis A, or hepatitis B can be vaccinated. Note that not all patients who mention one or more **H-A-L-O** factors will need to be vaccinated. Before you make a *definitive* decision about vaccinating your patient, it’s important that you refer to the more detailed information found in the Immunization Action

Coalition’s “Summary of Recommendations for Adult Immunization,” located at www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2011.pdf or the complete recommendations from the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm.

How do I use H-A-L-O? Though some factors can be easily determined (e.g., age, pregnancy), you will need to ask your patient about the presence or absence of others. Once you determine which of the **H-A-L-O** factors apply, scan down each column of the chart to see at a glance which vaccinations are *possibly* indicated (they are shown with a check mark).

H-A-L-O checklist of factors that indicate a possible need for adult vaccination

| Vaccine | Health factors | | | | | Age factors | | Lifestyle factors | | | | | Occupational or other factors | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| | Chronic disease | Pregnant | History of STD | Immunosuppressed (including HIV) | Cochlear implant candidate/recipient | Age equal to or younger than 26 ² , 49 ³ , or 65 ¹ | Age equal to or older than 50 ⁵ , 60 ⁴ , or 65 ⁶ | Born outside the U.S. | Men who have sex with men | Not in a long-term, mutually monogamous relationship | User of injection or noninjection street drugs | International traveler | College student | Parent or caregiver of a young child | Healthcare worker | Certain lab workers | Adults in institutional settings (e.g., chronic care, correctional) |
| Tdap | | ✓ | | | | ✓ ¹ | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| HPV | | | | | | ✓ ² | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Varicella | | | | ?* | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Zoster | | | | | | | ✓ ⁴ | | | | | | | | | | |
| MMR | | | | ?* | | ✓ ³ | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Influenza | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ ⁵ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Pneumococcal | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ ⁶ | | | | | | | | | | |
| HepA | ✓ | | | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| HepB | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Meningococcal | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ |

?* Vaccination may be indicated depending on degree of immunosuppression.