



BUREAU OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES DIVISION OF IMMUNIZATIONS
HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL IMMUNIZATION RECOMMENDATIONS

March 2014

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 who work in medical facilities should be immune to:

Measles, Mumps and Rubella:

❖ HCP born in 1957 or later can be considered immune to measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) only if they have a documentation of 1) laboratory confirmation of measles, mumps, or rubella immunity or 2) appropriate vaccination against measles, mumps, and rubella (two doses of live measles and mumps vaccines separated by 28 days or more and at least one dose of live rubella vaccine).

❖ 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 documentation of two properly spaced doses of varicella vaccine, history of varicella or herpes zoster based on a physician diagnosis, laboratory evidence of immunity or laboratory confirmation of disease.

Tetanus/Diphtheria: Completion of the primary series of DPT, DT, or Td, and a booster dose every ten years. **OR**

Tetanus/Diphtheria/Acellular Pertussis (Tdap): A one-time dose for all HCP who have direct contact with patients, with priority given to those having contact with infants younger than age 12 months. Persons beginning the Td series, one dose should include Tdap as part of the series.

Hepatitis B: Three doses of Hepatitis B vaccine for health care personnel who perform tasks involving contact with blood, blood-contaminated body fluids, other body fluids or sharps. Laboratory evidence of hepatitis B immunity is acceptable.

Influenza: Annual vaccination with current influenza vaccine.