

Vaccinations for Adults

You're never too old to get immunized!



Talk to your health care provider about all of the vaccinations you need. Here are recommendations for adults 65 years and older:

Vaccine	Why It's Needed	Expected Cost
Flu (Influenza)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You need one yearly dose of the flu vaccine to protect you and your loved ones and friends.The best time to get a flu shot is in October, but getting one in December or later will still protect you against the flu.	One shot per flu season is covered by Medicare Part B with no copayment or co-insurance. Flu season runs from approximately November to April each year. It is possible for a person to receive two flu shots in one year and for Medicare to cover the cost of both.
Pneumococcal *† (PCV13 [conjugate vaccine]; PPSV23 [polysaccharide vaccine])	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If you are 65 years or older, you should receive two types of pneumococcal vaccines to protect against serious infections such as meningitis and pneumonia:<ul style="list-style-type: none">› one dose of PCV13 first, followed by› one dose of PPSV23 six to 12 months later.You might need one or both of these vaccines before age 65 if you are a smoker or if you have a long-term health condition such as asthma or heart, lung or kidney disease.Only one lifetime dose of PCV13 is recommended for adults; some adults will need more than one dose of PPSV23.	Up to two shots are covered by Medicare Part B with no copayment or co-insurance.



Vaccine	Why It's Needed	Expected Cost
Shingles (Herpes zoster)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you are 60 years or older, you should get a one-time dose of this vaccine now. You should get this vaccine even if you have had shingles. 	Covered under Medicare Part D; check with your insurance carrier to determine your cost.**
Chickenpox* (Varicella)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have never had chickenpox, ask your health care provider if you need this vaccine. If you were vaccinated for chickenpox, but received only one dose, ask your health care provider if you need this vaccine. 	Covered under Medicare Part D; check with your insurance carrier to determine your cost.**
Hepatitis A* (HepA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor (such as hemophilia or travel to areas with high rates of hepatitis A viral infection) or simply want to be protected from this liver disease. The vaccine is usually given in two doses, six to 18 months apart. 	Covered under Medicare Part D; check with your insurance carrier to determine your cost.**
Hepatitis B* (HepB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You need this vaccine if you have a specific risk factor (such as a job that exposes you to human blood, live with somebody who has chronic HBV infection or travel to regions with high rates of hepatitis B virus infection) or simply want to be protected from this serious liver disease. The vaccine is given in three doses, usually over a six-month period, so you will need to go to your health care provider three times during the six months. 	Covered under Medicare Part B for medium- or high-risk people, such as those with renal disease or hemophilia. If covered by Medicare Part B, there is no copayment or co-insurance. If patient is not at medium or high risk, then covered under Medicare Part D.

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Hib ^{*†} (Haemophilus influenzae type b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You need a Hib vaccination if you have certain high-risk conditions (such as sickle cell disease, no spleen or have had chemotherapy for malignant neoplasms). You may need one or three doses. 	Covered under Medicare Part D; check with your insurance carrier to determine your cost. ^{**}
Measles, mumps, rubella [*] (MMR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You need at least one dose of MMR if you were born in 1957 or later and have not had measles, mumps and rubella. You may also need a second dose. 	Covered under Medicare Part D; check with your insurance carrier to determine your cost. ^{**}
Meningococcal ^{*†} (MCV4, MPSV4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You need this vaccine if you have one of several health conditions such as those that weaken the immune system. You may need more than one dose. 	Covered under Medicare Part D; check with your insurance carrier to determine your cost. ^{**}
Tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough (Pertussis) (Tdap, Td)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You need the adult whooping cough (Tdap) vaccine if you did not receive a dose of Tdap as an adolescent or adult. After that, you need a Td booster dose every 10 years. Talk to your health care provider if you haven't had at least three tetanus- and diphtheria-containing shots sometime in your life or if you have a deep or dirty wound. 	Covered under Medicare Part D; check with your insurance carrier to determine your cost. ^{**}

* Consult your health care provider to determine your risk level for infection and your need for this vaccine.

† People who have had their spleen removed.

** May be covered by Medicare Part B if the need for the vaccination is the result of an injury or direct exposure to the associated disease and there is significant risk that a person could contract the disease because of exposure.



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