Immunization Scheduler Quick Start Guide

The Scheduler

About This Tool

This 2018 Catch-Up Immunization Scheduler tool uses a child's birth date and vaccination history to automatically create a personalized vaccination schedule. The rules for creating a catch-up vaccination schedule are complex. This tool simplifies the process, providing information for parents/caregivers that may be discussed with a child's healthcare professional.

The term "catch-up" is used to describe an immunization schedule that shows the next date a dose of vaccine is recommended to be administered for any late or missed vaccinations.

This tool was designed in close collaboration with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Georgia Tech, and the Georgia Tech Research Institute Information and Communications Lab.

With this tool, you can...

- Enter, update, or modify your child's vaccination history;
- Load a previously saved vaccination history;
- Print a vaccination schedule;
- Generate an accelerated vaccine schedule (to schedule immunizations as soon as possible), which is useful for upcoming travel or during a disease outbreak; and
- Save your child's vaccination history to your computer for future use.

Disclaimer

This tool is based on the 2018 Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule recommended by the ACIP, AAP, AAFP, and ACOG. This parent-friendly tool provides generally recommended dates for immunizations based on your child's birth date and vaccination history. Some diseases or treatments for disease affect the immune system. For children with these diseases or for children receiving these treatments, the schedule generated by this tool may need to be modified. This tool does not account for possible medical situations. Consult your child’s physician or other healthcare professional for advice about your child's immunization schedule.

Qualification

Healthcare professionals should not use this tool for immunization decisions. Healthcare professionals should refer to their state's Immunization Information System. Georgia Tech has used its best efforts to accurately portray immunization application, but cannot guarantee if it is outdated, incomplete, or accurate in all cases. Georgia Tech and CDC are not licensed to practice medicine or pharmacology, and this tool does not constitute such practice.
The Scheduler

Scheduler Home Page

This entry page shows the steps to generate a schedule, along with the disclaimer and qualification statements.

At any time, click the FAQs link (located at the top bar of all pages) to get answers to your questions about this tool.

The top of all screens includes links to information about this tool, as well as contact options, where you can opt in to email notifications about changes to this tool, send us your feedback, and ask us any questions.
The Scheduler – Step 1

Enter Birth Date or Upload Existing Saved File

The first step to create your child’s immunization schedule is to either:

Enter your child’s birth date. Select the birth date from the calendar or manually type in the birth date using the format mm/dd/yyyy (use slashes).

OR

Browse to find a previously saved file of your child’s vaccination history. See FAQs for info on saved files.

Tip: To quickly select the year using the calendar, click the [Month Year] at the top of calendar. Then, click the year.
The Scheduler – Step 2

Enter Vaccination History for Each Vaccine

For each vaccine, enter dates for all previously administered doses. Begin by selecting the Add Dose button for each vaccination.

Click the FAQs link to get answers to your questions about this tool.
The Scheduler – Step 2 continued

Enter Doses
- To add a date, click on the calendar button.
- To delete a date, click on the “X” button.

Notice the 0/3 or 0/5, etc. The first number shows you the number of dates you have entered. The second number tells you how many total doses are recommended for that vaccine.

If you do not know the date a vaccine was received, enter an approximate date to create a schedule. However, discuss the recommendation with your child’s doctor.

Dosage dates are sequential and dependent on each other. For example, to modify Dose 2 of a series, you must delete Dose 3. You can enter Dose 3 again after you change Dose 2.

Dosage dates are restricted based on the previous dosage in a series and the child’s birthdate. When you click on the disease name, a Vaccine Information Statement is shown. Click the FAQs link to get answers to your questions about this tool.
Routine or Accelerated Schedule

After entering doses
- Select “routine” to see a standard immunization schedule.
- Select “accelerated” if you need to schedule catch-up vaccination doses as soon as possible (e.g., traveling soon or due to disease outbreaks).

**Routine:**
Routine schedules provide the recommended intervals between doses to ensure your child gets vaccinated on time.

**Accelerated:**
Catch-up schedules provide the minimum intervals between doses for children whose vaccinations have been delayed.
The Scheduler – Step 3

Save, Print, or Edit Entries

Your personalized vaccination schedule is presented. Save your entries for later use by clicking the “Save” button and following the prompts. You can print a copy of the schedule for your records or to bring to your child’s doctor for discussion.

Statement above chart (in green) indicates whether the dates presented are based on schedule for ages birth-6 years or 7-18 years.

See legend below table to understand the dosage types used in table. See the FAQs for detailed descriptions of dosage types.

Get answers about saving entries in the FAQs section to learn how to avoid reentering dates in the tool.
The Scheduler – Step 3 continued

Footnotes on Schedule

Footnotes that appear below the schedule are specific to the recommended vaccines on the schedule you generated. These footnotes may pair with routine vaccinations, catch-up vaccinations or vaccinations for people with high-risk conditions, and provide information a healthcare professional uses to administer vaccines. Discuss any questions you might have with your child’s doctor.

Footnotes

Note: These footnotes can be found on the Immunization Schedule and are what your child’s doctor uses to administer vaccines.

Hepatitis B (HepB) vaccine. (Minimum age: birth)

Rotavirus (RV) vaccines. (Minimum age: 6 weeks for both RV1 [Rotarix] and RV5 [RotaTeq])

Routine vaccination:
- Administer a series of RV vaccine to all infants as follows:
  - If Rotarix is used, administer a 2-dose series at ages 2 and 4 months.
  - If RotaTeq is used, administer a 3-dose series at ages 2, 4, and 6 months.
- If any dose in the series was RotaTeq or vaccine product is unknown for any dose in the series, a total of 3 doses of RV vaccine should be administered.

Catch-up vaccination:
- The maximum age for the first dose in the series is 14 weeks, 6 days; vaccination should not be initiated for infants aged 15 weeks, 0 days, or older.
- The maximum age for the final dose in the series is 8 months, 0 days.

Back to Schedule
Easy-to-read Schedules

Check the CDC's easy-to-read schedules to quickly see when each vaccine or series of shots is recommended.

- **Childhood (birth through 6 years)**
- **Preteens and Teens (7-18 years)**
Frequently Asked Questions

**How do I use this tool?**
A great place to start is with the Quick Start Guide.

**Why can’t I modify/delete a date from the dosage history?**
Dosage dates are sequential and dependent on each other. To modify Dose 2 of a series, you must delete Dose 3. You can enter in Dose 3 again after you change Dose 2.

**Why do I want to save the history?**
To avoid re-entering previous doses, you can save the vaccination history to your desktop and load the dosage history when you use the tool in the future. You may want to do this to modify/update the dosage history, for planning reasons, or to keep a record of your child’s dosage history. Save the history file in a location where you will remember to look when it is time to upload it. If you do not select a location, you might find it in your “Downloads” folder.

**How can I save my schedule using a different file name?**
The tool will save your child’s vaccination history in a file named firstname_lastname.json. For example, the history file for a child with the name John Doe will be JohnDoe.json. Warning: Do not change .json to something else, as the file will not load into the tool.

Your browser will store the file in the download directory in which it is configured to use. To change the name of the file, go to the download directory used by your browser, and use the tools provided by your operating system to rename the file.

**What do AD, CD, OD, ID, and PD mean?**
- **AD** - Administered Dose (Dosages you have entered already in the tool)
- **CD** - Catch-up Dose (Recommended dosages to catch your child up to the recommended schedule)
- **OD** - On-time Dose (Dosages that are set to be given on time given the birthdate and dosage history provided)
- **ID** - Invalid Dose (Past doses you have entered that were too early/late/etc., to be counted, according to current practices)
- **PD** - Pre-emptive Dose (Dosages given at the minimal feasible time, when accelerated schedule is selected)

**The calendar tool does not allow me to enter in the date that I want; what is wrong?**
The calendar tool allows only birth dates within the age range of the childhood tool (birth through 18 years old). It also restricts dosage dates based on the previous dosage in a series and the child’s birth date. Possibly the dates you are entering are out of range.
How do I quickly select the year using the calendar tool?
To quickly select a year using the calendar, click the [Month Year] at the top of calendar. Then, click your child's birth year.

In the # Doses column, what does 0/3 or 0/5 mean?
The first number is for the date the first dose was entered. The second number tells you how many total doses of that vaccine are recommended.

Can I enter approximate dates for previously administered doses?
If exact dosage dates for a vaccine are unknown, approximate dates are acceptable for creating a schedule, but discuss with your child's doctor prior to receiving future doses.

What is a “catch-up” schedule?
A catch-up schedule is an immunization schedule for children whose vaccinations have been delayed, either because they started the vaccines late or are more than one month behind the recommended vaccination schedule. A vaccine series does not need to be restarted, regardless of the time that has elapsed between doses.

When I click on the name of the disease, why do I go to a VIS?
A VIS or Vaccine Information Statement is a document given to everyone that receives a vaccine. They explain the benefits and risks of the vaccine your child is receiving. You can download these sheets to your mobile device. These documents are produced by the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC).

What do these vaccinations prevent?
Visit the [CDC Vaccines website] to learn about the diseases vaccines prevent.

Where can I find an easy-to-read version of the schedule?
Check the CDC's recommended immunization schedules for childhood (birth-6 years) and preteen and teen (7-18 years) to quickly see when each vaccine or series of shots is recommended.

How can I get more help with the generated schedule?
Contact your child’s doctor directly or email your question to NCIRDwebteam@cdc.gov.

Can I use this tool on my Mac?
Yes, this tool works on both Mac and PCs. It has been tested in Firefox, IE, Chrome, and Safari browsers. Further testing is being done for mobile devices. If you run into any problems, please email NCIRDwebteam@cdc.gov.

Can you use this tool on a mobile device?
Yes, you can use it in a browser on your mobile device. However, the tool is not completely optimized for use on a mobile device.

The tool won't allow me to save my schedule on my mobile phone; why not?
Some devices will generate a vaccination schedule; however, mobile devices are not yet officially supported. Some functions (notably Print/Load/Save) will not work.
Is there an app version?
No. However, the CDC Vaccine Schedules App for Health Care Professionals gives access to CDC's childhood, adolescent, adult, and catch-up vaccine schedules. Free downloads are available from the iTunes App Store and Google Play.

How can I provide feedback on this tool?
Email feedback to NCIRDwebteam@cdc.gov.