

# Highlight

on **VACCINATION 4 TEENS**

Family physicians know vaccines are the best way to help protect teens against serious infectious diseases. The fact remains that millions of teens remain under-protected.<sup>1</sup> The Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule now features a specific 16-year-old immunization visit.<sup>2</sup> This modification highlights the importance of scheduling 16-year-old adolescent patients for necessary vaccinations.

**Here are recent statistics about four CDC-recommended vaccines for adolescents:**

## Meningococcal vaccine\*

- While 85% of children received the first dose (MenACWY) at the recommended ages of 11-12 years during 2016-17, only 44% received the second dose by age 17.<sup>1</sup>

## Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine

- Nearly 66 percent of adolescents aged 13-17 receive the first dose of the HPV vaccination, but only 49% completed the vaccination series.<sup>4</sup>
- In 2015 alone, more than 43,000 women and men developed an HPV-associated cancer.<sup>4</sup>

## Tdap vaccine

- The majority of teens (88%) received the Tdap booster during 2016-17,<sup>1</sup> but there is still room for improvement.
- In recent years, there have been 10,000-40,000 reported cases of pertussis.<sup>3</sup>

## Flu vaccine

- During the 2017-18 flu season, less than half of adolescents aged 13-17 were vaccinated against the flu.<sup>5</sup>

**In addition to these national statistics, state data is available at:**

- MenACWY, HPV, and Tdap: [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6733a1.htm#T3\\_down](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6733a1.htm#T3_down) or [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/coverage/teenvaxview/data-reports/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/coverage/teenvaxview/data-reports/index.html)
- Flu: [www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/interactive-general-population.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/interactive-general-population.htm)
- State-by-state immunization registry map: [www.aafp.org/patient-care/public-health/immunizations/registry/imms-map.html](http://www.aafp.org/patient-care/public-health/immunizations/registry/imms-map.html)

**We need your help to improve these statistics. Resources are available to educate your teen patients and their parents/guardians through Highlight on VACCINATIONS 4 TEENS, available at [www.aafp.org/vaccinations4teens](http://www.aafp.org/vaccinations4teens).**

**Thank you for your support of this important initiative.**

\*MenACWY = Quadrivalent meningococcal vaccine that helps protect against invasive disease caused by serogroups A, C, W, and Y; the CDC also recommends MenB (serogroup B meningococcal vaccine) for certain adolescents at increased risk, e.g., students on college campuses that have recently experienced meningococcal B outbreaks<sup>9</sup>

#### References

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National, regional, state, and selected local area vaccination coverage among adolescents aged 13–17 years — United States, 2017. *MMWR*. 2018;67(33):909-917.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommended child and adolescent immunization schedule for ages 18 years and younger. United States 2019. [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-combined-schedule-bw.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-combined-schedule-bw.pdf). Accessed May 16, 2019.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Pertussis (whooping cough). Questions and answers. [www.cdc.gov/pertussis/outbreaks/fags.html](http://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/outbreaks/fags.html). Accessed May 16, 2019.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More US adolescents up to date on HPV vaccination. [www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2018/p0823-HPV-vaccination.html](http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2018/p0823-HPV-vaccination.html). Accessed May 16, 2019.
5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2017-18 influenza season vaccination coverage dashboard. [www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/reportshtml/reporti1718/reportii/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/reportshtml/reporti1718/reportii/index.html). Accessed May 16, 2019.