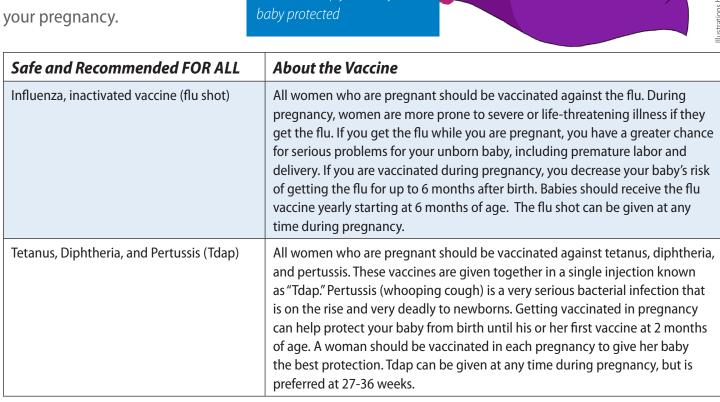
Vaccines and Pregnancy

Pregnancy is an ideal time to get vaccinated against certain diseases. Some vaccines are not only safe to receive during pregnancy, but are also strongly recommended by public health professionals. When you receive a vaccine during pregnancy, your body produces antibodies that fight the disease you were vaccinated against.

These antibodies cross over the placenta

(the organ in your womb that nourishes your unborn baby) and protect your baby in the first months of life. See the tables below to learn about the vaccines you may need during your pregnancy.





Safe and Recommended FOR SOME	About the Vaccine
Hepatitis A	Hepatitis A vaccine is safe during pregnancy and can be given if you are at risk of infection. Factors that put you at risk for Hepatitis A include history of chronic liver disease, IV drug use, sexual partner with Hepatitis A, travel to an area where Hepatitis A is common, or exposure to unsanitary living conditions or unsafe water. The vaccine is given in 2 doses, 6 months apart.
Hepatitis B	Hepatitis B vaccine is safe during pregnancy and can be given if you have diabetes, have had more than one sex partner in the last 6 months or recently had a sexually transmitted infection, are on dialysis, have an immune dysfunction, or are not already immune. A blood test can show if you are immune already and don't need the vaccine. The vaccine is given in 3 doses over a 6 month period. It is recommended that your baby be vaccinated at birth.

For more information on vaccines in pregnancy, see http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/rec-vac/pregnant.html

Not Safe during Pregnancy	About the Vaccine
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)	The HPV vaccine is not recommended during pregnancy. There are currently no clinical studies that show it to be safe or harmful during pregnancy.
Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)	If a woman becomes infected with rubella during pregnancy, her baby can have serious birth defects. Women who are pregnant should be tested to see if they are immune to rubella, but should not receive the vaccine until after the baby is born.
Varicella (chicken pox)	Women who have had chicken pox or who have had the vaccine may be protected against chicken pox; however, they should be tested during pregnancy to confirm that they are immune. Varicella vaccine is not recommended in pregnancy, but may be given after the baby is born.
Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (nasal spray)	Pregnant women should not get live vaccines.

If you will be traveling outside the United States, you may need additional vaccines. For information, consult your midwife, a travel clinic, or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/travel.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

American College of Nurse-Midwives http://ourmomentoftruth.midwife.org/OMOT-Vaccines-for-Women

http://www.immunizationforwomen.org

http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/rec-vac/pregnant.html

http://www.marchofdimes.com/pregnancy/vaccinations-during-pregnancy.aspx

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