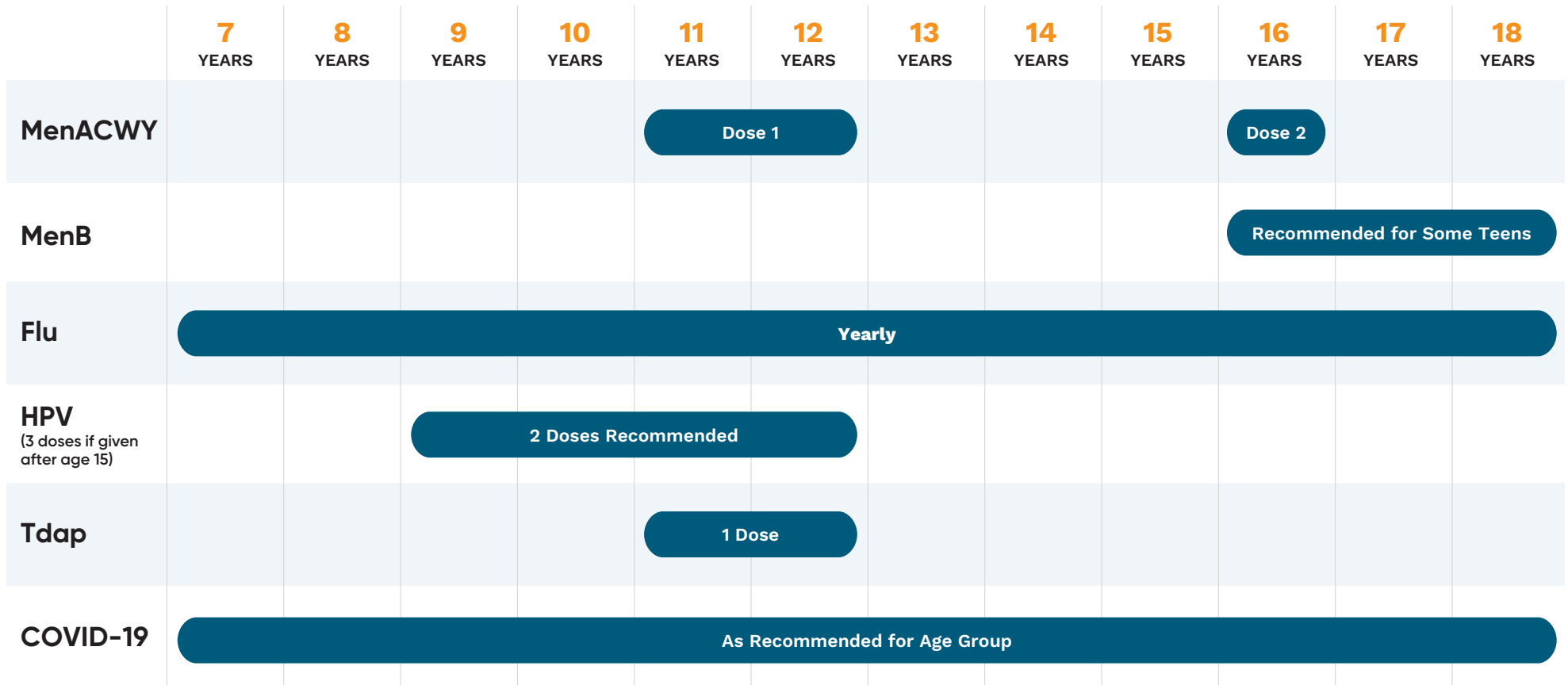


# AAP Recommended Immunization Schedule – 2026

## Adolescents 7 Through 18 Years Old



Source: 2026 Recommended Immunization Schedule for Ages 18 or Younger, American Academy of Pediatrics, 2026.

For more information from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), visit their parenting website at [healthychildren.org/immunizationschedules](https://www.healthychildren.org/immunizationschedules).

**Healthy Kids  
Healthy Moms**  
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**If your child missed a vaccine for any reason or is not up to date on doctor-recommended vaccines, it's not too late to get caught up!**

Your doctor is here to help you get back on track. Ask your child's doctor about catching up on routine vaccines, or scan the QR code to find a local community health center near you:



# What diseases do these vaccines protect against?

7-18 YEARS OLD

## VACCINE

## VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASE

## DISEASE COMPLICATIONS

### MenACWY

#### Meningococcal Disease

Life-threatening disease caused by bacteria that can infect the bloodstream, brain and spinal cord

Meningococcal disease is mainly caused by five types of bacteria – ABCWY. The MenACWY vaccine protects against four bacterial strains, which are labeled with the letters A, C, W and Y. Meningococcal disease is life-threatening if not caught and treated early – within a few hours. MenACWY is recommended for all kids between age 11 and 12 years and a booster dose is given at age 16 years. Anyone can get the disease, but teens and young adults are most at risk. Infections are spread in saliva through close contact or lengthy contact and in crowded spaces like college dorms.

### MenB

#### Meningococcal Disease

Life-threatening disease caused by bacteria that can infect the bloodstream, brain and spinal cord

The MenB vaccine protects against a different strain of bacteria, labeled with the letter B, which is known to cause meningococcal disease. Teens may get a MenB vaccine in addition to the MenACWY vaccine, preferably at age 16-18 years, or there is a combined MenABCWY vaccine that protects against all 5 strains in a single shot for kids age 10 and older. Your doctor can help answer questions about vaccines to protect against all five types of bacteria most likely to cause meningococcal disease.

### Flu

#### Influenza (Flu)

Respiratory virus that can cause serious illness

The flu shot is recommended for everyone age 6 months and older, including teens, every year. The flu shot is very effective at preventing severe influenza disease that leads to hospitalization, especially in children.

### HPV

#### Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

Virus that causes 6 types of cancer and genital warts

The HPV vaccine prevents six types of cancer, including cervical cancer, penile and anal cancers, cancers of the mouth and throat. Vaccinating kids against HPV when they are ages 9-12 years will allow them to build strong immunity against the virus before they are exposed to it. If they don't get the first dose until age 15, they need 3 doses.

### Tdap\*

#### Tetanus (Lockjaw)

Infection caused by bacteria in soil or dust that you can be exposed to through any break in the skin

Tetanus causes painful muscle spasms. Another name for tetanus is "lockjaw," because it can cause a person's neck and jaw muscles to lock, making it hard to open the mouth or swallow.

### Tdap\*

#### Diphtheria

Disease that can cause a life-threatening throat infection

Diphtheria can cause a serious throat infection, breathing problems, and heart failure even in healthy children. Before we had a vaccine, diphtheria killed 1 out of every 5 kids who were infected.

### Tdap\*

#### Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

Highly contagious respiratory infection that causes strong coughing

Pertussis, also called whooping cough, can cause a cough that won't go away, and sometimes causes vomiting or trouble breathing. The protection your teen got from their childhood vaccine starts to wear off around age 11. Without a booster dose, teens can easily spread the disease to others, including infants, who are at even more risk.

### COVID-19

#### COVID-19

Respiratory virus that continues to cause serious symptoms and hospitalization

Children with underlying health conditions are at highest risk for severe COVID-19 and hospitalization. Children or teens without risk factors can get the COVID vaccine, too. COVID vaccines are updated to work best against strains of the virus that are circulating. Getting vaccinated is the most dependable way to avoid serious illness and Long COVID.

\***Tdap** is a booster vaccine to protect against three diseases: tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. It's a slightly different version of a vaccine your child received as a baby (DTaP).

The version for adolescents and adults has a different name because it has lower doses of the diphtheria and pertussis vaccines. After your child gets a Tdap vaccine at age 11 or 12, they will need a booster dose of Tdap or tetanus and diphtheria (Td) vaccine every 10 years as an adult.

Source: AAP-Recommended Vaccines for \*Tweens, Teens & Young Adults, HealthyChildren.org, last updated January 26, 2026

Last updated June 2026