

## dTap-IPV (or DTaP-IPV) Vaccine

**Immunization protects you from disease. Get protected, get immunized.**

- Vaccines make your immune system stronger by building antibodies, which help prevent diseases.
- Immunization is safe. It is much safer to get immunized than to get these diseases.

### **What does the dTap-IPV vaccine protect against?**

This vaccine gets its name from the diseases it protects against, including diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), and polio.

### **Who should have the vaccine?**

This vaccine is given as a booster dose to children, 4 years of age and older, who have already had their first 4 doses of DTaP-IPV-Hib.

The dTap-IPV vaccine may also be offered to adults and children 7 years of age and older whose immunizations are off the routine schedule.

A similar vaccine (DTaP-IPV) protects for the same diseases. It can be used instead of dTap-IPV for the booster dose at 4 to 6 years of age or for children 6 years of age and younger who are off the routine schedule.

### **How many doses of dTap-IPV vaccine are needed?**

The first time people get immunized for tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis and polio, 3 doses are usually given over a period of time. This is called the primary series. People usually get this series as babies.

The dTap-IPV vaccine is usually given as a booster once, between 4 and 6 years of age. Booster doses with similar vaccines are needed as a teen and as an adult to keep you protected.

More doses of this vaccine may be needed for people who are off the routine schedule.

### **How well does the vaccine work?**

After the primary series of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis, and polio vaccine followed by a booster dose, protection is:

- almost 100% for diphtheria, tetanus, and polio
- around 90% for pertussis

It is important to get booster doses because protection may weaken over time.

### **Where can I get the vaccine?**

The vaccine is given at a public health office in your area.

### **Are there side effects from dTap-IPV vaccine?**

Reactions to the vaccine are usually mild and go away in a few days. They may include:

- redness, swelling, and discomfort where the needle was given
- feeling tired, irritable, or crying
- headache
- fever
- poor appetite, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

It is important to stay at the clinic for 15 minutes after immunization because people can have a rare but serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).

Unusual reactions can happen. Call Health Link at 811 to report any unusual reactions.

## How can I manage side effects?

- To help with discomfort and swelling, put a cool, wet cloth over the area.
- If you need fever or pain medicine, check with your pharmacist or doctor. Do not give aspirin to anyone younger than 19 years old because it can cause serious health problems.
- Some people with health problems (e.g., weak immune system) must call their doctor whenever they get a fever. If you have been told to do this, call your doctor—even if you think the fever was due to immunization.

## Is there anyone who cannot have dTap-IPV vaccine?

You may not be able to have the vaccine if you:

- have an allergy to parts of the vaccine—always tell your healthcare provider about allergies.
- had a severe or unusual reaction after this vaccine (or a similar one)—always tell your healthcare provider if you have had reactions.

You can be immunized if you have a mild illness (e.g., cold), even if you have a fever.

## For More Information



Call Health Link at **811**



Go to [immunizealberta.ca](http://immunizealberta.ca)



Go to [myhealth.alberta.ca](http://myhealth.alberta.ca)

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# Disease Quick Facts

## Diphtheria

- nose and throat infection caused by bacteria
- can cause trouble breathing or swallowing, heart failure, and paralysis
- 1 out of 10 people who get diphtheria will die
- spread by coughing, sneezing, or close contact with an infected person

## Tetanus

- bacterial infection that causes spasms of the jaw (lock jaw) and other muscles
- can lead to trouble breathing, seizures, and death
- this bacteria is common in dirt, manure, and human stool and enters the body by a wound or animal bite
- tetanus disease is rare since a vaccine became available in the 1940s

## Pertussis

- infection of the airways caused by bacteria
- causes coughing spells that can last for months
- coughing can be so bad it is hard to eat, drink, and breathe (especially for babies)
- can lead to pneumonia, seizures, brain injury, and death
- spread by coughing, sneezing, or contact with infected person

## Polio

- nervous system infection caused by a virus
- most people do not have symptoms, but can spread the disease
- can lead to paralysis and death
- spread by infected stool getting onto hands or into food and water, and then into the mouth