



Directorate of Health
Chief Epidemiologist for Iceland

Overview of general vaccinations in Iceland

Overview of general vaccinations in Iceland along with guidelines for those that have incomplete or unknown immunisation history.

General vaccinations according to this overview have been in effect since 1.1.2000 with later amendments due to new vaccinations, latest in June 2023.

General childhood vaccinations in Iceland

All the vaccines below can be administered at the same time if the minimum age has been reached.

Vaccines ▼	Age ▶	3 m.	5 m.	12 m.	18 m.	30 m.	4 years	12 years	14 years
Diphtheria (D/d), Tetanus (T), Pertussis (whooping cough) (aP)		1-DTaP¹	2-DTaP¹	3-DTaP¹			4-dTaP²		5-dTaP³
<i>Haemophilus influenzae b</i>		1-Hib¹	2-Hib¹	3-Hib¹					
Polio		1-IPV¹	2-IPV¹	3-IPV¹					4-IPV⁴
Pneumococcus		1-PCV⁵	2-PCV⁵	3-PCV⁵					
Meningococcus ACWY				mACWY⁶					
Varicella, chickenpox					1-VZV⁷	2-VZV⁷			
Measles, mumps, rubella					1-MMR⁸			2-MMR⁸	
HPV								HPV⁹	

1. Administered in one injection in a pentavalent combination vaccine. Usually, Hib does not need to be administered to children of age 5 and older.
2. Administered in one injection. Note: Contains less amount of antigen for diphtheria (d), tetanus (T), and whooping cough (P).
3. Administered in one injection (with 4-IPV). Revaccination every 10 years with dT or dTaP if there is a risk of infection.
4. Administered in one injection (with 5-dTaP). Revaccination every 10 years if there is a risk of infection.
5. Three injections given before age 1. Two injections between 1 and 2 years with a minimum of a month between, while older children receive one injection.
6. One injection is enough for 12 months or older, see however special considerations for travels to areas where menA epidemics are frequent.
7. Children born 1.1.2019 or later that have not had chickenpox after 10 months age. Two injections required for all ages with a minimum interval of 1 month.
8. Administered in one injection. Individuals 12 years and older only need one injection. Cannot be administered to children younger 6 months, most effective from 12 months.
9. Two injections, with a minimum interval of 6 months between injections. Irrespective of gender for those born in 2011 and later, older cohorts: Only girls.

Vaccinations of children in Iceland with unknown or incomplete immunisation history

Guidance for interpreting the table: Find the number of vaccinations the person in question has received. Trace the colour to the correct top-column. **Note: It is never necessary to restart vaccinations even though a long time has passed since the last injection.** Immigrants that cannot submit a confirmation of vaccinations are to be considered unvaccinated. All the vaccines below can be administered at the same time if the minimum age has been reached.

Age: From 6 months to 4 years

Doses administered and the shortest time from earlier dose

Diseases that are vaccinated against:	First dose	Second dose	Third dose	Fourth dose
Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough	DTaP¹	DTaP¹: after 4 weeks	DTaP¹: after 6 months	DTaP²: after 6 months
Polio	IPV¹	IPV¹ after 4 weeks	IPV¹ after 6 months	
Haemophilus influenzae b	Hib¹	Hib^{1,3}: after 4 weeks	Hib^{1,3}: after 6 months	
Pneumococcus	PCV⁴	PCV⁴ after 4 weeks	PCV⁴ after 6 months	
Meningococcus ACWY	mACWY⁵			
Varicella, chickenpox	VZV⁶	VZV⁶ after 4 weeks		
Measles, mumps, rubella	MMR⁷			
Number of earlier doses	None			
	One			
	Two			
	Three			

1. Combination pentavalent vaccine can be administered to 4 year-olds and younger. DtaP, IPV, and Hib can be administered in separate injections. Hib does not need to be administered to children of age 5 and older.
2. DtaP is administered up to 5 years, after that dTaP.
3. A minimum of three doses if vaccination starts before 12 months; two doses with a minimum interval of 8 weeks if vaccination starts at 12–14 months; one dose is enough if vaccination starts after 15 months.
4. Three doses administered to children younger than 12 months; two doses for 1–2 year-olds, and one after 2 years of age.
5. Children from 12 months to 18 years old need one dose against menC.
6. Children born in 2019 and later: First dose given at 18 months, second at 30 months.
7. First dose given at 18 months.

Vaccinations of children in Iceland with unknown or incomplete immunisation history

Guidance for interpreting the table: Find the number of vaccinations the person in question has received. Trace the colour to the correct top-column. **Note: It is never necessary to restart vaccinations even though a long time has passed since the last injection.** Immigrants that cannot submit a confirmation of vaccinations are to be considered unvaccinated. All the vaccines below can be administered at the same time.

Age: 5 years to 17 years

Doses administered and the shortest time from earlier dose

Diseases that are vaccinated against:		First dose	Second dose	Third dose	Fourth dose
Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough		dTaP ¹	dTaP ¹ : after 4 weeks	dTaP ¹ : after 6 months	dTaP vaccination every 10 years if there is a risk of infection.
Polio		IPV ¹	IPV ¹ after 4 weeks	IPV ¹ : after 6 months	IPV vaccination every 10 years if there is a risk of infection.
Meningococcus ACWY		mACWY			
Measles, mumps, rubella		MMR ²	MMR ²		
HPV		HPV ³	HPV ³		
Number of earlier doses	None				
	One				
	Two				
	Three				

- Administered in separate injections (dTaP/IPV), or together in one injection (dTaP-IPV).
- Second dose (revaccination) administered to 12 year-olds. Unvaccinated individuals 12 years and older only need one injection.
- Administered to 12 year-olds, irrespective of gender, for children born in 2011 and later. Older birth cohorts: girls only. Two injections, with a minimum interval of 6 months between injections. For the best protection both injections need to be administered within a 12 month period.

Vaccinations of children according to special recommendations

Vaccines ▾	Age ▶	0-6 months	6-12 months	12-24 months	2-17 years
Hepatitis B		HBV ¹			
Influenza			IIV ²		
Varicella, chickenpox				VZV ³	
Pneumococcus				PCV ⁴	
					PPSV ⁴
Hepatitis A				HAV ⁵	
Meningococcus A				menACWY ⁶	

1. Newborns of mothers with infectious hepatitis B shall be vaccinated and given antibodies against hepatitis B within 12 hours from birth, revaccination after 1 month and again after 6 months. Children that need frequent blood donations, haemodialysis, and children that share a home with an individual infected with hepatitis B, shall also be vaccinated. These children also need three injections (after 1 month and 6 months from the first injection).
2. For a child younger than 9 years that has not received flu vaccination before, 2 injections are recommended with a minimum interval of 1 month, for the first time the influenza vaccinations is administered.
3. Administered to individuals 12 months and older. Two injections with a minimum interval of one month, are recommended.
4. Protein-based vaccines (PCV15) are recommended for children, and children with certain risk factors do also need PPSV after the age of two, as well as PCV20 when they have reached the minimum age according to marketing authorisation (now 18 years).
5. Can be administered to children older than 12 months. Revaccination 6–12 months after the initial vaccination.
6. Children 2 years and older, travelling to areas where there is a risk of epidemics of menA (and/or W/Y if not vaccinated with ACWY after 12 months) should receive a vaccine from the general market as a part of travel health care, even if they have received the menACWY vaccine as a part of general vaccinations at 12 months.

Vaccinations of adults in Iceland with unknown or incomplete immunisation history

Guidance for interpreting the table: Find the number of vaccinations the person in question has received. Go to the right to the next open column by colour. **Note: It is never necessary to restart vaccinations even though a long time has passed since the last injection.** Immigrants that cannot submit a confirmation of vaccinations are to be considered unvaccinated. All the vaccines below can be administered at the same time.

Age: ≥18 years		Doses administered and the <u>shortest</u> time from earlier dose							
Diseases that are vaccinated against:		First dose	Second dose	Third dose	Fourth dose				
Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough		dTaP ¹	dTaP ¹ : after 4 weeks	dTaP ¹ : after 6 months	dTaP vaccination every 10 years if there is a risk of infection.				
Polio						IPV ¹	dTaP ¹ : after 4 weeks	IPV ¹ : after 6 months	IPV vaccination every 10 years if there is a risk of infection.
Measles, mumps, rubella									
Number of earlier doses	None								
	One								
	Two								
	Three								

- Administered in separate injections (dTaP/IPV), or together in one injection (dTaP-IPV).
- Unvaccinated individuals 12 years and older only need one injection, unless they are at special risk, e.g. healthcare professionals.

Vaccinations of children according to special recommendations

Vaccines ▼	Age ▶	18-45 years	45-60 years	60 years and older
Influenza			IIV ¹	
Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough			dTaP ² :	
Pneumococcus - protein-based			PCV ³	
Pneumococcus - polysaccharide vaccine			PPSV ⁴	
Polio			IPV ⁵	
Hepatitis A			HAV ⁶	
Hepatitis B			HBV ⁷	
Papillomaviruses		HPV2/HPV9 ⁸		
Morbilli, measles		MMR ⁹		
Rubella		MMR ¹⁰		

1. All pregnant women. Healthcare professionals in patient care Individuals with chronic heart, lung, kidney or liver diseases, diabetes, malignant diseases, or other immunosuppressive diseases. Everyone 60 and older.
2. Pregnant women (whooping cough) in the third trimester of each pregnancy. Others every 10 years due to travels (diphtheria and tetanus) or because of contaminated wounds (tetanus).
3. Protein-based vaccines are recommended for adults with increased risk of serious pneumococcal infections, [according to guidelines](#).
4. Everyone 60 and older. Younger individuals with increased risk of serious pneumococcal infections, as well as PCV [according to guidelines](#).
5. Everyone travelling to a country where the disease is endemic, or where epidemics are frequent, every 10 years. Administered with or without dTaP.
6. Men who have sex with men. Everyone travelling to a country where the disease is endemic. Persons who inject drugs.
7. Healthcare professionals that work with blood and blood components. Individuals that need frequent blood donations or haemodialysis. Men who have sex with men, individuals that share a home with an individual infected with hepatitis B, and persons that inject drugs.
8. As prescribed by a doctor. Consider for HIV positives, 45 years and younger, men who have sex with men 27 years and younger. See also [guidelines](#).
9. Everyone, especially healthcare professionals that are born after 1970, and have not had measles or been vaccinated against it.
10. Women of childbearing age that are not immune to rubella, [see guidelines for maternity care](#)