VACCINATION AND DIALYSIS
What You Should Know

VACCINES HELP PROTECT YOU FROM SERIOUS INFECTION DISEASES
Vaccines help prevent serious diseases caused by infections from certain germs (viruses or bacteria).

40,000 to 50,000
Adults die from vaccine-preventable diseases in the US each year¹

~300,000
Americans are hospitalized from the flu each year²

700,000 to 1.4 million
Americans have chronic hepatitis B virus infection³

~6 days
Average length of stay for adults hospitalized with pneumococcal pneumonia⁴

Vaccines are an important part of healthcare for everyone, especially those on dialysis

People on dialysis and older adults have a greater chance of getting an infection

Their immune systems can be weaker, making it harder to fight off infections

They have a greater chance of that infection becoming serious
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STAY UP TO DATE WITH YOUR VACCINATIONS

Organize your vaccination records and keep them in one place

Ask your healthcare providers for any records you might not have, and if there are vaccines you may still need

Some vaccines are given when you travel, so check with your healthcare provider before any planned trips

Certain vaccines may be recommended for patients on dialysis

- Flu (influenza)
- Hepatitis B virus (HBV)
- Hepatitis A virus (HAV)
- Pneumococcal
- Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Td/Tdap)
- Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR)
- Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
- Varicella (Chickenpox)
- Meningococcal
- Shingles
- HPV

a) Ask your healthcare provider about timing and frequency. Does not apply to transplant recipients.
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**TAKE OTHER STEPS TO REDUCE RISK OF INFECTION**

- **Wash** your hands
- **Avoid touching your face** and rubbing your eyes, especially after touching doorknobs and other objects
- **Do not share a drinking glass** with others
- **Use safe cooking practices**, such as properly cooking meat, poultry and eggs

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If you are receiving dialysis, make sure your healthcare provider does the following:

- **Washes** his or her hands
- **Wears** clean gloves, gown, and protective eyewear
- **Cleans and disinfects** the treatment area
REFERENCES


