



PHARMACIST

POCKET GUIDE:

HEPATITIS B VACCINE

Who should get vaccinated?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the hepatitis B vaccine to unvaccinated adults who are at risk for hepatitis B virus infection, including^{1,2}:

- International travelers to regions with increased rates of hepatitis B¹
- People with chronic liver disease, chronic kidney disease, HIV infection, or diabetes^{1,2}
- Healthcare workers¹
- Recent or current users of injection drugs^{1,2}
- Sexually at-risk adults^{1,2}

Please refer to the CDC's Pink Book and the ACIP Schedule for the complete hepatitis B recommendation.^{1,2}

Who should not get vaccinated?

Do not give the hepatitis B vaccine if your patient¹:

- Has ever had a severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a dose of hepatitis B vaccine, or has a severe allergy to any part of the vaccine
- Has a moderate or severe acute illness. Vaccination should be deferred until the person's condition has improved

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Diabetes and hepatitis B

- People living with type 1 or type 2 diabetes are at an increased risk for hepatitis B³
- Adults with diabetes who are younger than 60 years of age should be vaccinated as soon as feasible after diagnosis³
- Adults with diabetes who are 60 years of age or older should be vaccinated at the discretion of the patient's healthcare provider³

International travel and hepatitis B

According to the CDC, those at risk of exposure to hepatitis B include¹:

- International travelers to regions with high or intermediate levels of hepatitis B
- Long-term travelers
- People who may engage in high-risk behaviors or provide healthcare services while traveling

References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases*. Hamborsky J, Kroger A, Wolfe S, eds. 13th ed. Washington D.C. Public Health Foundation; 2015: 149-174.
2. Recommended Immunization Schedule for Adults Aged 19 Years or Older, United States, 2017. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/adult/adult-combined-schedule.pdf>. Accessed August 4, 2017.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Diabetes and Hepatitis B. <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/populations/diabetes.htm>. Updated December 1, 2016. Accessed August 7, 2017.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Hepatitis B Vaccine, What You Need to Know. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/hep-b.pdf>. Updated July 20, 2016. Accessed August 4, 2017.

