

Contraindications to Immunizations Required for Pre-Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten/K-12 School Entry

This table appears in the *Rx for Prevention* article: “Understanding California’s Child Care and School Immunization Requirements and Medical Exemptions.” Recommendations were derived from guidance published by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, and the Immunization Action Coalition.^a

Indication for Medical Contraindication	Contraindicated Immunizations For Immunizations Required for Pre-Kindergarten and TK/K-12 School Entry
Permanent Contraindications	
Severe allergic reaction ^b to a vaccine component or a previous dose of vaccine	DTaP, Tdap, DT, Td, Hib, HepB ^c , IPV, MMR, Varicella
Encephalopathy (e.g., coma, decreased level of consciousness, or prolonged seizures) not attributable to another identifiable cause within 7 days of a prior dose of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTP or DTaP (for DTaP) or • DTP, DTaP, or Tdap (for Tdap). 	DTaP, Tdap
Temporary Contraindications	
Younger than 6 weeks old	Hib
Primary or acquired severe immunodeficiency or individuals with HIV who are severely immunocompromised ^d	Varicella, MMR
Family history of hereditary or congenital immunodeficiency in a first-degree relative (e.g., parent or sibling) until patient has laboratory or clinical evidence verifying immunocompetence ^e	Varicella, MMR
Pregnancy	Varicella, MMR

Table Footnotes

- ^a Recommendations were derived from the following sources: American Academy of Pediatrics’ *Red Book*,¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases*,² Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices’ *General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization*,³ and Immunization Action Coalition’s *Guide to Contraindications and Precautions to Commonly Used Vaccines*.⁴
- ^b Severe allergic reaction may include symptoms of anaphylaxis, such as hives, wheezing or trouble breathing, circulatory collapse, or shock.
- ^c Hypersensitivity to yeast is also considered a contraindication to Hepatitis B immunization.
- ^d For individuals with severe immunodeficiency or HIV, see ACIP recommendations regarding severe immunocompromise and the approach to proper immunization.³ Note that in some instances, specific immunodeficiencies might result in permanent contraindication to certain vaccines.
- ^e While ACIP lists family history of hereditary or congenital immunodeficiency in a first-degree relative until the patient has laboratory or clinical evidence of immunocompetence as a contraindication to both MMR and varicella immunizations,³ the *Red Book* only explicitly references it as a contraindication to varicella immunization.¹

References

1. Kimberlin DW, Brady MT, Jackson MA, Long SS, eds. *Red Book: 2018-2021 Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*. 31st ed. Itasca, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; 2018.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. General recommendations on immunization. In: Hamborsky J, Kroger A, Wolfe S, eds. *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases*. 13th ed. Washington D.C.: Public Health Foundation; 2015. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/genrec.html>.
3. Ezeanolue E, Harriman K, Hunter P, Kroger A, Pellegrini C. General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization: Best Practices Guidance of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/index.html>. Accessed October 8, 2018.
4. Immunization Action Coalition. Guide to Contraindications and Precautions to Commonly Used Vaccines. www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3072a.pdf. Accessed October 8, 2018.