



Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap) Adacel®, Boostrix®

The Tdap vaccine protects against three diseases in one needle: tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis.

Who should get this vaccine?^{1, 2, 3}

- Routinely given to teenagers 14-16 years of age as a booster to the immunizations they received as a child.
- All adults should receive one dose of Tdap if they have not had one in adulthood. This should replace one of their Td boosters which are due every 10 years.
- All pregnant women at or after 26 weeks of pregnancy who have not received a dose of pertussis vaccine as an adult. Getting the vaccine while pregnant provides protection for the newborn during the first 2 months of life (when they are at highest risk).

How well does this vaccine work?^{1, 2, 3}

When given on the recommended schedule:

- 99% of those fully vaccinated are protected against tetanus.
- 97-100% of those fully vaccinated are protected against diphtheria.
- 85-90% of those fully vaccinated are protected against pertussis.

Is there an alternative to this vaccine?

At this time there are no other ways to prevent these diseases.

Hand washing and covering the mouth and nose while coughing/sneezing can help reduce the spread of disease.

Is this vaccine safe?

The risk of a serious reaction or side effect from this vaccine is much less than the risk of tetanus, diphtheria or pertussis.

If you experience any side effect worse than what is listed below, please seek medical advice and notify the health unit.

Common side effects of this vaccine^{1, 2, 3}

- Mild pain in muscle
- Redness
- Swelling

Less common:

- Headache
- Nausea
- Mild fever
- Body aches
- Rash
- Chills
- Diarrhea
- Feeling tired

- **Rare:**
- Arthus-like reaction (severe pain, swelling, hard lump where needle was given, edema, haemorrhage and occasionally dead tissue).

Who should not receive this vaccine? ^{1, 2, 3}

- Anyone with an allergy to any of the vaccine components or who has had an allergic or anaphylactic reaction to this vaccine.
- Anyone who has developed Guillain Barré Syndrome (GBS) within 6 weeks of receiving tetanus containing vaccine.
- Anyone who has developed neurological symptoms within 7 days of a previous dose of a pertussis containing vaccine with the cause not yet identified.

What is in this vaccine? ^{4, 5}

Adacel®	Boostrix®	Also found in...
2-Phenoxyethanol		Skim creams, sunscreen
Aluminum phosphate	Aluminum phosphate	Breast milk, antacids
Glutaraldehyde		Water treatment
Formaldehyde	Formaldehyde	Mushrooms, Pears, Apples
	Glycine	Meat, Fish
	Polysorbate 80	Ice Cream
	Sodium Chloride	Table salt
	Latex	Balloons
Tetanus toxoid	Tetanus toxoid	Other vaccines

What else do I need to know?

It is important for you to keep a current record of your child's vaccines. When your child begins school you will be asked to provide a copy of this record to the school, who will forward it onto the health unit.

The health unit is required by law to keep immunization records for all children attending a day nursery or school. Health care providers do not share immunization records with the health unit. This is the parent's responsibility. You can share/update your child's record in the following ways:

Use the secure on-line form on our website – www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/immsonline

Fax a copy to 705-721-1495

Mail a copy to: VPD Program, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, 15 Sperling Drive, Barrie, ON, L4M 6K9.

Call Your Health Connection at 705-721-7520.

References:

Canadian Immunization Guide. Part 4-Active Vaccines: Tetanus Toxoid. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2015.

Canadian Immunization Guide. Part 4-Active Vaccines: Diphtheria Toxoid. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2015.

Canadian Immunization Guide. Part 4-Active Vaccines: Pertussis Vaccine. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2015.

Canadian Immunization Guide. Part 1-Key Immunization Information 2013. Table 1: Types and contents of vaccines available for use in Canada. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2015.

Moore, D. Your Child's Best Shot (4th ed.). Canadian Paediatric Society, 2015.