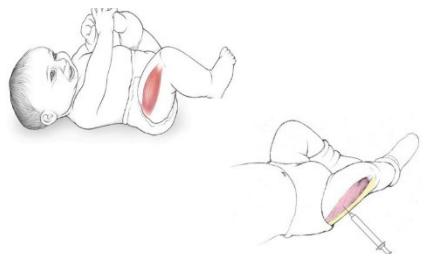
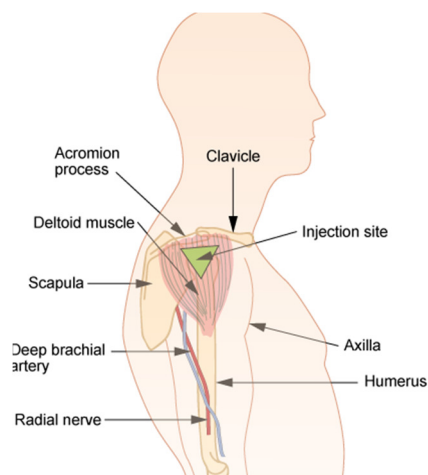


# How to Administer Intramuscular (IM) Vaccines

Client Age	Injection Site	Needle Size
Infants up to 12 months of age	Anterolateral thigh muscle	1" (25 gauge)
12 months of age through adult	Deltoid muscle in the arm	1" (25 gauge) 1 1/2" (25 gauge) if muscle mass warrants a longer needle



Anterolateral Thigh (vastus lateralis muscle)



## Infant up to 12 Months of Age

- Insert needle at a 90° angle into the fatty tissue of the anterolateral thigh muscle.

## Over 12 Months of Age Through Adult

- Define the site by drawing a triangle with its base at the lower edge of the acromial process and its peak above the insertion of the deltoid muscle.
- The injection site is in the center of the triangle, which in most children and adults would be approximately 3 finger widths below the acromial process.

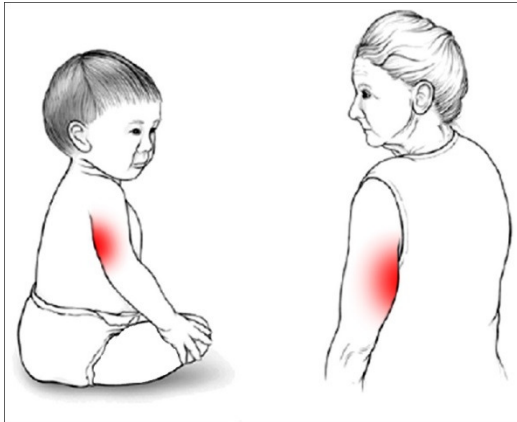
## IM Needle Insertion Guidelines

- Use a needle long enough to reach deep into the muscle.
- Insert needle at a 90° angle to the skin.
- The vaccine should be administered rapidly without aspiration.
- Multiple injections given in the same limb should be separated by a minimum of 1".

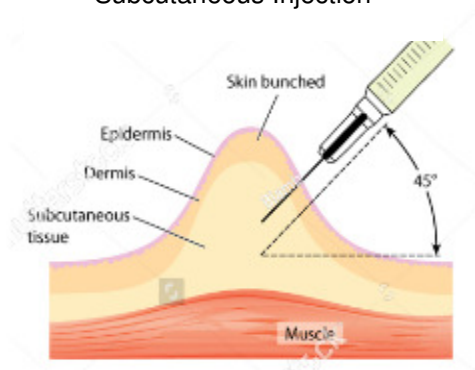
***\*A larger gauge needle (e.g., 22 gauge) may be required when administering viscous or larger volume products such as immune globulin.***

# How to Administer Subcutaneous (SC) Vaccines

Client Age	Injection Site	Needle Size
12 months of age through adult	Fatty tissue over tricep muscle	5/8" (25 gauge)



Subcutaneous Injection



## SC Needle Insertion Guidelines

- Pinch up on subcutaneous tissue to prevent injection into muscle.
- Insert needle at 45° angle to the skin.
- The vaccine should be administered rapidly without aspiration.
- Multiple injections given in the same limb should be separated by a minimum of 1".

***\*A larger gauge needle (e.g., 22 gauge) may be required when administering viscous or larger volume products such as immune globulin.***