



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? ^{1,3}

- Routinely given to teenagers at 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 of which are due for every 10 years.
- All pregnant women in every pregnancy, ideally from 21 – 32 weeks gestation, but can be given anytime from 13 weeks up until delivery. 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? ^{1,3}

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 ^{1,3}

- 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, 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? ²

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

We ask you to:

- Check
 - Your child's yellow immunization card or health record.
- Contact
 - Your child's family physician or health-care provider to obtain records, or to get missing vaccinations
- Share
 - Visit our website to share your immunization record with us.

**References:**

1. Canadian Immunization Guide. Part 4-Active Vaccines. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2017.
2. 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; 2017.
3. Moore, D. Your Child's Best Shot (4th ed.). Canadian Paediatric Society, 2015.
4. Q&A on Tdap Vaccination Against Pertussis (Whooping Cough) During Pregnancy in Canada. The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. March 2018.