



Immunizations during pregnancy

Indiana University Health Arnett OB/GYN

Certain immunizations are encouraged during pregnancy, and are offered through our office (excluding the COVID Vaccine).

Tdap - The Tdap vaccine is offered to all pregnant women at about 28 weeks in their pregnancy. It protects against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). We encourage women to get this vaccine with each pregnancy to boost the antibodies and protect the baby.

Flu Vaccine - We offer the flu vaccine to all pregnant women during flu season (typically October through March). This helps to protect women again many of the flu strains.

COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

COVID-19 is more dangerous for pregnant women.

- COVID-19 patients who are pregnant are 5 times more likely to end up in the intensive care unit (ICU) or on a ventilator than COVID-19 patients who are not pregnant
- Preterm birth may be more common for pregnant women with severe COVID-19, but other obstetric complications such as stillbirth do not appear to be increased
- Pregnant women are more likely to die of COVID-19 than non-pregnant women with COVID who are the same age

The COVID-19 vaccine will prevent 95% of COVID-19 infections.

- As COVID-19 infections go up in our communities, your risk of getting COVID-19 goes up too
- Getting the vaccine will prevent you from getting COVID-19 and will help keep you from giving COVID-19 to people around you

The COVID-19 vaccine cannot give you COVID-19.

- The COVID-19 vaccine has no live virus
- The COVID-9 vaccine does NOT contain ingredients that are known to be harmful to pregnant women or to the fetus
- Many vaccines are routinely given in pregnancy and are safe (i.e., tetanus, diphtheria, and flu)

Recommendation

ACOG recommends that COVID-19 vaccines should not be withheld from pregnant individuals who choose to be vaccinated. While limited, current safety data on the use of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnancy do not indicate any safety concerns. In the interest of patient autonomy, ACOG recommends that pregnant individuals be free to make their own decision regarding COVID-19 vaccination. While pregnant individuals are encouraged to discuss vaccination considerations with their clinical care team when feasible, documentation of such a discussion should not be required prior to receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (2021, March)



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