

GET YOUR CHILDREN VACCINATED!

The diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis, polio (dTdap-IPV) vaccine



What does this vaccine protect against?

This vaccine protects against four different diseases:

- **Diphtheria:** A bacterial infection of the nose and throat that can cause difficulty breathing or swallowing, heart problems, and paralysis (inability to move all or part of the body).
- **Tetanus:** A bacterial infection that attacks the nervous system and causes uncontrolled spasms of the jaw and body muscles, including muscles that control breathing. It can cause difficulty breathing or swallowing, seizures, and death.
- **Pertussis (Whooping Cough):** A bacterial infection of the airways and lungs that causes a cough that can last several weeks to months, difficulty breathing or swallowing, and pneumonia.
- **Polio:** A viral infection of the nervous system that can cause paralysis and death.



Who should get this vaccine?

- As part of the routine immunization schedule, children get this vaccine as an extra (booster) dose if they are 4 years old and have already had their first 4 doses of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, and polio vaccine. Those first 4 doses are called a primary series.
- Children 7 years old and older who have not had all the doses in the primary series will need extra doses of the dTap-IPV vaccine. The number of doses needed depends on age. Ask your healthcare provider how many doses your child needs.

Who should not get this vaccine?

- If your child has an allergy to any component of the vaccine.
- If your child had a severe or unusual side effect after this vaccine or one like it.



What are the side effects of this vaccine? The side effects tend to be very mild and temporary and include redness/swelling/soreness at the injection site, crying, fatigue, irritability, fever, poor appetite, swollen lymph nodes, etc. Side effect symptoms can be managed by placing a cool, wet cloth on the injection site or by taking medications like ibuprofen or acetaminophen to deal with fever or pain.

If you have any additional questions or want to schedule your vaccination, you can:

- Call Health Link at 811
- Call AIMGA's Multilingual Health Hub for Newcomers Phone Line at 1-587-392-8062
- Contact your family physician or primary care network
- Visit booking.aimga.ca to book a patient navigator