

Vaccinations for Infants and Children with Solid Organ Transplant

Last Updated: January 12, 2024

The BCCH Multi-Organ Transplant team **STRONGLY** recommends keeping current with vaccines after transplant to ensure your child is protected.

Why should your child get vaccinated?

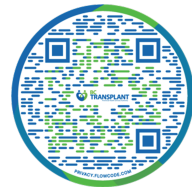
Vaccines save lives and protect against dangerous and deadly infections.

Organ transplant recipients are at an increased risk of infections because their anti-rejection medications can weaken their immune system.

If your child was not able to receive all the recommended vaccines before their transplant, most vaccines can be given safely after transplantation.

Some of the vaccines will be the same for children with solid organ transplants (SOT) as the routine immunization schedules.

Scan the QR code for routine immunization schedules →
or visit bit.ly/BCImmunizationSchedule



For other vaccines, extra doses, different schedules or special instructions may be required, depending on your child's age, when they received their transplant, and vaccines received before transplant.



Check with your team about the following vaccines for guidance specific to your child with SOT:

✓	Hepatitis B vaccine	May require additional doses with higher dose formulation.
✓	Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV 13) vaccine	Young transplant recipients may require an additional dose.
✓	Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV 23)	Two doses are currently recommended for pediatric transplant recipients.
✓	Meningococcal Quadrivalent vaccine	May be given earlier than Grade 9, boosters recommended.
✓	Human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV)	May require an additional dose.
✓	Seasonal COVID-19 vaccine	May require additional dose(s).
✓	Seasonal Influenza (flu) vaccine (inactivated)	No FluMist. Formulation delivered by injection is safe and recommended annually as transplant recipients are at higher risk of complications from flu.
✓	Hepatitis A vaccine	Recommended and publicly funded for some pediatric transplant recipients.
✓	Meningococcal B vaccine	Recommended for some pediatric transplant recipients. Not publicly funded.
✓	Varicella zoster virus (chickenpox) vaccine (live attenuated)	Recommended for some pediatric transplant recipients.
⚠	Measles, mumps, rubella vaccine (live attenuated)	No, for now.
✗	Rotavirus vaccine (live attenuated)	No, not well studied in pediatric transplant recipients.
✗	Oral typhoid vaccine (inactivated or live attenuated)	No, not well studied in pediatric transplant recipients.
✗	Yellow fever vaccine (live attenuated)	No, not well studied in pediatric transplant recipients.

Family and Close Contacts

Family members and close contacts are **strongly recommended** to be fully vaccinated with both live and inactivated vaccines to protect your child with SOT. For live vaccines, please check with your transplant team as special precautions may be needed to protect your child.

Where to Get Your Vaccines?

- BC Children’s Hospital Family Immunization Clinic
- Local public health unit
- Some family doctors and pediatricians
- Local pharmacies (children ages 5+ only)

Scan the QR code for more information about pediatric SOT vaccines or visit bit.ly/PediatricSOTVaccines

