



FIVE CONSIDERATIONS for Age Five and Up Vaccinations




1 Premedication

Giving children analgesics prior to vaccines is ineffective and not recommended. For children worried about injection pain, consider a topical anesthetic prior to vaccination.




2 Needle Size

Use vaccine-appropriate route of administration and assess each child. Use a 1" 22-25 gauge needle for IM injections in most kids 5-17 years old.




3 Dose

Several vaccines are available in pediatric and adult formulations, and doses may vary with age. Check the approved age for the product and double check that the correct dose is being administered.







4 Coadministration with other vaccines

Most vaccines can be safely and effectively administered at the same visit, including influenza, COVID-19, and routine childhood vaccines.



5 Administration

Think about the child's comfort and safety when administering vaccines. Have caregivers hold their child. Encourage techniques to help with vaccine anxiety like blowing with a toy or video/verbal distraction. Ensure caregivers have age-appropriate information about aftercare. Check out these helpful links:

<p>The CARD System</p> 	<p>CDC—Before, During, and After Shots</p> 	<p>CDC—How to Hold Your Child During Vaccination</p> 	<p>BCCDC—Reducing Injection Pain</p> 
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REFERENCES:

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