A Quick Look at Using DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) Vaccine

Use DTaP for children 6 weeks through 6 years of age

Schedule
- Routinely administered at
  - 2, 4, 6, and 15-18 months of age
  - 4-6 years of age*

The 4th dose of DTaP vaccine can be given at 12 months of age if 6 months has elapsed since the 3rd dose

Catch-Up Schedule
- Minimum intervals between doses:
  - 4 weeks between dose 1 & 2
  - 4 weeks between dose 2 & 3
  - 6 months between dose 3 & 4 (and age 12 months or older)
  - 6 months between dose 4 & 5** (and age 4 years or older)

Vaccine Administration
- Intramuscular (IM) injection in the anterolateral thigh or deltoid of the arm
- 1-1.5 inch, 22-25 gauge needle
- Professional judgment is appropriate when selecting needle length
- Can be given simultaneously with other vaccines

Storage and Handling
- Store in the refrigerator between 35º-46º F (2º-8ºC)**
- Do NOT freeze
- Keep in the original box
- Shake well before use

**Stand-alone purpose build units are preferred

WOUND CARE
- If the wound is not clean and/or not minor & the child is ages 6 weeks through 6 years:
  - Assure the child’s DTaP series is up-to-date
  - Administer DTaP if a dose is needed

CONTRAINdications
- Allergic reaction to a previous dose of DTaP vaccine or a component of the vaccines
- Encephalopathy not due to another cause within 7 days after vaccination with a pertussis-containing vaccine

PRECAUTIONS
- Moderate or severe illness
- Fever of 105ºF or higher within 48 hours of vaccination with no identifiable cause
- Collapse or shock like state within 48 hours of vaccination
- Persistent inconsolable crying lasting more than 3 hours within 48 hours of vaccination
- Convulsions with or without fever within 3 days of a vaccination

FURTHER POINTS
- Ensure you are using the right vaccine for the right age!
  - Refer to “A Quick Look at Using Tdap” and “A Quick Look at UsingTd” for updated information on these vaccines

www.michigan.gov/immunize

- Different brands of DTaP vaccines can be used if the provider does not know or have the brand of DTaP used for prior doses
- All doses in the series are needed to ensure protection. Use MCIR reminder/recall for children missing doses of DTaP vaccine
- When using combination vaccines containing DTaP vaccine follow the minimum age (6 weeks) and intervals for each antigen
- Tdap given as part of the DTaP series is a medical error; steps should be taken to avoid this error in the future
  - Tdap given to a child age 6 weeks through 6 years as dose 1, 2 or 3 of the DTaP series is invalid and DTaP should be administered
  - Tdap should still be given at age 11-12 years

- DTaP Vaccine Information Statement (VIS), including information about the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), can be found at www.michigan.gov/immunize or your local health department.

- A multiple vaccine VIS, “Your Baby’s First Vaccines”, includes DTaP vaccine. It can be used when routine vaccines are given
  - It may be used for children through 6 years of age
  - This VIS can be used when giving combination vaccines in which the vaccine components are listed on the VIS such as: Pediarix (DTaP-IPV-Hepb), Pentacel (DTaP-IPV-Hib), Kinrix (DTaP-IPV) or Quadracel (DTaP-IPV)
  - Give all 4 pages and remember to check the boxes of the vaccines that are to be given
  - The “Multiple Vaccine” VIS, including information about MCIR, can be found at www.michigan.gov/immunize or your local health department

- Document as “DTaP” in MCIR, on the vaccine administration record (VAR) and the immunization record card

*A 5th dose is not necessary if the 4th dose was given at/after 4 years of age

Publicly purchased DTaP can be administered to eligible children 6 weeks through 6 years of age, through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program in private providers’ offices. Eligible children include those who are uninsured, underinsured, Medicaid eligible, Native American or Alaskan Natives. Contact your local health department for more information.


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