

# YOU CALL THE SHOTS

## Vaccine Administration: Intramuscular (IM) Injection Children 7 through 18 years of age

### Administer these vaccines by IM injection:

- COVID-19 (1vCOV-mRNA), (1vCOVaPS [12 years of age and older])
- Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib)
- Hepatitis A (HepA)
- Hepatitis B (HepB)
- Hepatitis A and hepatitis B (HepA-HepB [18 years of age and older])
- Human papillomavirus (HPV vaccine)
- Influenza vaccine, inactivated (IIV)
- Influenza vaccine, recombinant (RIV [9 of age and older])
- Inactivated polio vaccine (IPV)\*
- Measles, mumps, and rubella (M-M-R-II)\*
- Measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella (MMRV)\*
- Meningococcal conjugate (MenACWY)
- Meningococcal serogroup B (MenB)
- Meningococcal serogroups A,B, C, W, Y (MenABCWY)
- Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV15, PCV20)
- Pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV23)\*
- Tetanus and diphtheria toxoid (Td)
- Tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis (Tdap)
- Varicella (VAR)\*

**Note:** Age, recommendations for use, and other indications vary by product. Always review manufacturers' product information as well as the current immunization schedule for children and adolescents (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/child-adolescent-age.html>) before administering vaccine.

*\*May also be administered by subcutaneous injection*

### To ensure vaccines are safe and effective, it's important to prepare and administer them correctly:

- Follow aseptic technique.
- Use a new, separate needle and syringe for each injection.
- Perform hand hygiene before vaccine preparation, between patients, when changing gloves (if worn), and any time hands become soiled.<sup>‡</sup>

*‡Gloves are not required unless the person administering the vaccine is likely to come in contact with potentially infectious body fluids or has open lesions on the hands. If worn, perform hand hygiene and change gloves between patients.*

### 1. Use the correct syringe and needle.

- Administer vaccine using either a 1-mL or 3-mL syringe.
- Use a 22- to 25-gauge needle.
- Use the correct needle length (5/8- to 1.5-inch needle).\*

*\*The anterolateral thigh may be used. For children:*

- 7 through 10 years of age, use a 1- to 1.25-inch (25–32 mm) needle
- 11 through 18 years of age, use a 1- to 1.5-inch (25–38 mm) needle

### 2. Identify the injection site.

- Preferred site: Deltoid muscle in the upper arm
- Use anatomical landmarks to determine the injection site. The deltoid muscle is a large, rounded, triangular shape. Find the acromion process, which is the bony point at the end of the shoulder. The injection site will be below the bone and above the axillary fold/arm pit.

### 3. Administer the vaccine correctly.

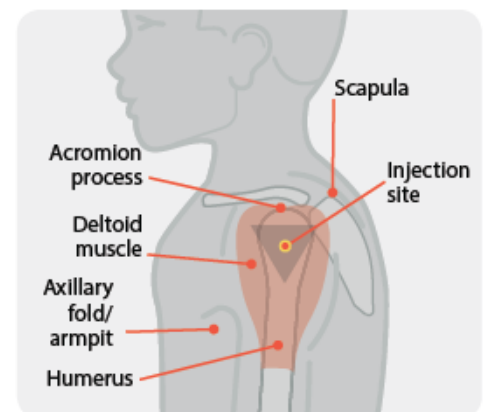
- Inject the vaccine into the middle and thickest part of the muscle. Insert the needle at a 90-degree angle and inject all of the vaccine in the muscle tissue.
- If administering more than one vaccine in the same arm, separate the injection sites by 1 inch if possible.

#### Deltoid Muscle

5/8 in (16 mm)

1 in (25 mm)

*If the skin is stretched tightly and the subcutaneous tissues are not bunched*



For additional information, go to CDC's General Best Practice Guideline for Immunization Vaccine Administration section at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-best-practices/vaccine-administration.html>

