



# Vaccines During Pregnancy



Vaccines are recommended during pregnancy to protect against serious illnesses. The most common vaccines given in pregnancy include the flu, Tdap, COVID-19, and RSV (respiratory syncytial virus).

These vaccines can keep you healthy and help protect your baby after birth.

## The flu vaccine is

- Safe for you and your fetus during any trimester of pregnancy
- Effective at preventing severe flu illness during pregnancy

## How does it protect my baby?

The flu vaccine creates antibodies that are passed to a fetus, which protect against the flu until a baby can get the flu vaccine at age 6 months.

---

## The whooping cough vaccine (Tdap) is

- Safe for you and your fetus
- Recommended between 27 weeks and 36 weeks of each pregnancy

## How does it protect my baby?

The Tdap vaccine creates antibodies that are passed to a fetus, which protect against whooping cough until a baby can get a whooping cough vaccine at age 2 months.

---

## The COVID-19 vaccine is

- Safe for you and your fetus during any trimester of pregnancy
- Effective at preventing severe illness from COVID-19

## How does it protect my baby?

The COVID-19 vaccine creates antibodies that are passed to a fetus, which may protect against COVID-19 until a baby can get a COVID-19 vaccine at age 6 months.

---

## The Pfizer RSV vaccine is

- Safe for you and your fetus
- Recommended if you are between 32 and 36 weeks of pregnancy during RSV season (September through January)

## How does it protect my baby?

The RSV vaccine creates antibodies that are passed to a fetus, which protect against RSV for the first 6 months after birth.

---

# Protect yourself and your baby. Get your recommended vaccines during each pregnancy.

Make sure everyone who is around your baby is up to date on their vaccines too. This helps protect your baby from illness.

## Vaccines: Get The Facts

### FACT

If you get the flu or COVID-19 during pregnancy, you can become much sicker than nonpregnant people who get these infections. Vaccines offer you the best protection.



### FACT

Babies younger than 3 months have the highest risk of severe disease and death from whooping cough. Babies cannot be vaccinated until they are 2 months old. So the best way to protect your newborn is by getting the Tdap shot during pregnancy.



### FACT

Getting vaccinated during pregnancy will not make you sick or harm your fetus. Research shows that vaccines do not cause pregnancy problems, birth defects, or autism in children. Vaccines have been used for many years in millions of pregnancies.



Learn more: [www.acog.org/vaccine-resources](http://www.acog.org/vaccine-resources)

PFSI037: This information is designed as an educational aid for the public. It offers current information and opinions related to women's health. It is not intended as a statement of the standard of care. It does not explain all of the proper treatments or methods of care. It is not a substitute for the advice of a physician. For ACOG's complete disclaimer, visit [www.acog.org/WomensHealth-Disclaimer](http://www.acog.org/WomensHealth-Disclaimer).

Copyright January 2024 by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, posted on the internet, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission from the publisher.

This resource was made possible by cooperative agreement number 6 5 NU380T000161-05-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO). Its contents are solely the responsibility of ACOG and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC or ASTHO.