

# Rheumatoid Arthritis: Vaccinations



	Vaccine	When to Vaccinate	Demographic Recommendations	Practical Pearls	Date Given	Next Date
<b>Safe</b>	Flu Shot	Yearly	Any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt;50 years old</li> <li>Have a chronic disease (RA)</li> <li>Are immunosuppressed</li> </ul>	Get your flu shot EVERY year	MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY
	Pneumovax	Best if given at diagnosis of RA or Every 5-10 years	No age restrictions Recommended for all RA patients	Plot a vaccination schedule with your doctor to ensure you get these vaccines at the right time.	MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY
	Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis	Every 10 years			MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY
<b>Safe with Precautions</b>	Chicken Pox, Shingles	At diagnosis before starting DMARDs or Biologics	No age restrictions Give before starting DMARDs or Biologics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These are "LIVE" vaccines</li> <li>They may cause illness in patients with lowered immune systems</li> <li>Some RA medications can lower the immune system</li> <li>You must not receive these when taking medications that lower the immune system</li> </ul>	MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY
	Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)				MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY
	Yellow fever, Oral Polio, Salmonella, Nasal Flu Shot				MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY
<b>Special Circumstances</b>	Hepatitis A	Unknown effects in patients with RA	Unknown effects in patients with RA	We don't have enough medical information to recommend this vaccine. Talk to your doctor.	MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY
	Hepatitis B	When at risk of infection* (see below for risks)	No age restrictions Only if at risk of infection	<p>Risk Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have unprotected sex with more than one partner and/or with someone who's infected with hepatitis B;</li> <li>Have a sexually transmitted disease such as gonorrhea or chlamydia;</li> <li>Are a man who has sexual contact with other men;</li> <li>Share needles during intravenous (IV) drug use;</li> <li>Share a household with someone who has a chronic hepatitis B infection;</li> <li>Have a job that exposes you to human blood;</li> <li>Receive hemodialysis for end-stage kidney (renal) disease;</li> <li>Travel to regions with high infection rates of hepatitis B, such as Africa, Central and Southeast Asia, and Eastern Europe</li> </ul>	MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY
	Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)	HPV vaccine is most effective when given to girls before they begin any sexual activity.	Usually given to females between the ages of 10 and 14	Best if vaccinated prior to sexual activity Given in a series of 3 injections over a 6-month period.	MM/DD/YY	MM/DD/YY