

UAMS MEDICAL CENTER
ACS SERVICES MANUAL

SUBJECT: Post Splenectomy Vaccines

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UPDATED: 12/2022; 6/2025

EFFECTIVE: 6/12/2025

RECOMMENDATION(S): Rebecca Smith, PharmD and Allison Jenkins, PharmD

APPROVAL: 12/15/2022

CONCURRENCE(S): Trauma Faculty

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines for the appropriate administration of post-splenectomy vaccinations.

GUIDELINE:

Indications:

- All patients status post-splenectomy
- All patients with < 50% perfused spleen

Initial Vaccinations:

- Pneumococcal vaccine, PCV21 (Capvaxive) - 0.5mL IM
 - If PCV21 (Capvaxive) is not available, give PCV20 (Pevnar-20) – 0.5mL IM
- *Hemophilus b* conjugate vaccine (ActHIB/Hiberix/PedvaxHIB) - 0.5mL IM
- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY (MenQuadfi/Menveo) - 0.5mL IM
- Meningococcal Group B vaccine, MenB (Bexsero/Trumenba) – 0.5 mL IM

Second Set of Vaccinations (to be given eight weeks AFTER initial vaccinations):

- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY (MenQuadfi/Menveo) - 0.5mL IM
- Meningococcal Group B vaccine, MenB (Bexsero/Trumenba) – 0.5 mL IM
- Pneumococcal vaccine: IF patient received PCV21 (Capvaxive) OR PCV20 (Pevnar-20), no further doses are required; IF patient received a different pneumococcal vaccine, please contact trauma/EGS/SICU pharmacist or utilize reference 7 listed below⁷

Third Set of Vaccinations (to be given 6 months AFTER INITIAL vaccinations)

- Meningococcal Group B vaccine, MenB (Bexsero/Trumenba) – 0.5 mL IM
 - IF second vaccination was administered at least 6 months post initial vaccinations, dose 3 is NOT needed; if dose 3 is administered < 4 months after second vaccination, a fourth vaccination should be given at least 4 months after vaccination 3

Booster Recommendations

- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY (MenQuadfi/Menveo) - 0.5mL IM – one booster dose 5 years after primary series completion and every 5 years
- Meningococcal Group B vaccine, MenB (Bexsero/Trumenba) – 0.5 mL IM – one booster dose 1 year after primary series completion and every 2-3 years
- Pneumococcal vaccine: IF patient received PCV21 (Capvaxive) OR PCV20 (Pevnar-20), no further doses are required; IF patient received a different pneumococcal vaccine, please contact trauma/EGS/SICU pharmacist or utilize reference 7 listed below⁷

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Procedure:

Initial vaccinations should be administered the day prior to discharge, 14 days after splenectomy, or last day of ICU care (prior to floor/progressive transfer) – whichever comes first.^{1,2} All patients should have the problem list in epic updated to reflect this status by adding the diagnosis of asplenia.

Education:

All patients with splenectomy need to be informed of their operation, the risk and signs/symptoms of developing Overwhelming Post-Splenectomy Infection (OPSI) via physician to patient discussion. Patients should be instructed to follow-up with their primary care physician for booster vaccine assessment.^{5,7-8} An information card should be completed with the dates of the vaccinations and given to the patient.

References:

1. Shatz DV, Romero-Steiner S, Elie CM, et al. Antibody responses in postsplenectomy trauma patients receiving the 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine at 14 versus 28 days postoperatively. *J Trauma* 2002; 53(6): 1037-42.
2. Shatz DV. Vaccination practices among North American trauma surgeons in Splenectomy after trauma. *J Trauma* 2002; 53: 950-956.
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4. Shatz DV, Schinsky M, Pais L, et al. Immune responses of splenectomized trauma patients to the 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine at 1 versus 7 versus 14 days after Splenectomy (RCT). *J Trauma* 1998; 44: 760-765.
5. Epidemiology and prevention of vaccine-preventable diseases. The Pink Book, 13th ed. Chapters 14 and 17, US Department of Health and Human Services Center for Disease Control and Prevention; April 2015.
6. Vaccinations for Adults without a Spleen. <https://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4047.pdf>; October 2024.
7. Kobayashi M, Leidner AJ, Gierke R, et al. Use of 21-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Among U.S. Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2024. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2024;73:793–798. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7336a3>
8. CDC. Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule 2025. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/downloads/adult/adult-combined-schedule.pdf>. Accessed 6 2025.