

Varicella Vaccination Algorithm



Does the person/parent/guardian report a history of chickenpox?

No

Yes. Type of Report?

How many previous documented doses of varicella vaccine does the patient have?

Laboratory evidence of immunity

Do not vaccinate. Document in NDIIS

Born in the U.S. before 1980¹

Do not vaccinate. Document in NDIIS

A healthcare provider diagnosis of varicella or verification of history of varicella disease²

Do not vaccinate. Document in NDIIS

History of herpes zoster based on healthcare provider diagnosis

Do not vaccinate. Document in NDIIS

Self/Parental diagnosis/report of history of varicella disease

Not considered adequate history of immunity. Vaccination required.

0

What is the patient's age?

< 12 months of age

Too young to be vaccinated against varicella

12 months – 12 years of age

Needs MMR and varicella vaccine: use MMRV

Needs just varicella vaccine (no MMR): use varicella

13 years of age and older

Vaccinate with 1 dose of varicella vaccine

1

What is the patient's age?

12 months – 3 years

Wait to administer second dose until 4-6 years of age, unless at high-risk³

4 – 6 years

Needs MMR and varicella vaccine: use MMRV

Needs just varicella vaccine (no MMR): use varicella

7 years -12 years

Needs MMR and varicella vaccine: vaccinate with 1 dose of MMRV at least 3 months after first dose

Needs just varicella vaccine: vaccinate with 1 dose of varicella vaccine at least 3 months after first

13 years and older

Vaccinate with 1 dose of varicella vaccine at least 1 month after first dose

2

No further doses needed. Consider immune to varicella

¹Healthcare facilities should consider recommending varicella vaccine for health care workers born before 1980 and without evidence of immunity

²Verification can be done by a clinician (e.g., school or occupational clinic nurse, physician assistant, physician). For atypical and/or mild disease history, epi-link to a typical varicella case or evidence or laboratory confirmation at the time of acute disease should be sought.

³People, at high-risk for varicella (e.g., outbreak settings), may be vaccinated earlier using proper minimum intervals and ages.

Contact the Immunization Unit at vaccine@nd.gov with any questions.