

DOWN SYNDROME : IMMUNISATION

Key Points

Note: This advice is based on the current (July 2013) UK immunisation schedule – it will be revised when any changes are introduced.

- Give all vaccines that are part of universal UK schedule:
 - **DTaP/IPV/Hib** (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis, Inactivated Polio and Haemophilus influenzae Type b)
 - **Men C** (Meningococcal C)
 - **PCV** (Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)
 - **Rota** (Rotavirus)
 - **MMR** (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
 - **Influenza** – for all 2 year olds from September 2013 and all children from 2-16 over the next few years

- Strong case for following additional vaccines:
 - **Influenza from 6 months** – especially those with congenital heart disease or chronic lung disease . Given annually
 - **Pneumococcal** polysaccharide vaccine from aged 2 years , particularly in those with cardiac and respiratory problems
 - **RSV prophylaxis** according to local guidance , but should include all those with aged 12 months or under at the start of the RSV season who are oxygen dependant or have haemodynamically significant congenital heart disease

- Possible case for the following:
 - **Hepatitis B** Need pre and post vaccine determination of immune status as per local schedules. Advice re timing and local schedules available from local paediatrician

Consider pre-care immunisation for adults going into residential care – accelerated course. (1st 3 doses within one month)

BCG - probably no indication unless in high risk group.

There is increased possibility of non-response to immunisation and this should always be borne in mind.

Updated 2013