



The American College of  
Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

## Physician Script Concerning Tdap Vaccination

All women should receive the tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine; this is particularly important for pregnant women because they are susceptible to acquiring pertussis (whooping cough), and newborns are at highest risk of having severe complications from pertussis. The College recommends that unvaccinated pregnant women (ie, those who have not previously received a Tdap vaccine) receive a Tdap vaccination, preferably during the late second trimester (ie, after 20 weeks gestation) or third trimester.

Alternatively, if not administered during pregnancy, the Tdap vaccine should be given to women postpartum before discharge, to ensure pertussis immunity in the mother and reduce the risk of transmission to the newborn. The College recommends that unvaccinated women receive Tdap vaccination as part of routine preventive care.

Unvaccinated adolescents and adults, including adults aged 65 years and older, who will have contact with infants younger than 12 months of age also should receive a single dose of Tdap. Educate your patients about the Tdap vaccine and provide guidance on where to find it. It is also important that you and your staff who are unvaccinated receive a single dose of Tdap.

To properly administer any vaccine in your office according to federally established guidelines you must give your patients a Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) upon receiving an immunization. It is also important to provide immunization in accordance with your state guidelines. Vaccine Information Statement forms can be found in multiple languages at [www.immunize.org/vis/](http://www.immunize.org/vis/).

Multiple studies show that the most effective way to increase your patients' vaccination acceptance rate is for you to directly recommend and provide the vaccine. Talk to your patients about Tdap today. Here is a script for your consideration:

"I strongly recommend that you get the Tdap shot today. I offer Tdap vaccination to all of my patients who need it. This includes unvaccinated pregnant women, who preferably get the shot during the late second trimester or third trimester and women who are considering becoming pregnant. The vaccine is safe and effective and has not been shown to cause autism or other adverse effects. Your family members who will be in contact with your newborn, or who have contact with other infants younger than 12 months of age, also should be vaccinated. This helps provide protection for your baby because he or she cannot get this vaccination until 2 months of age."

### RESOURCES

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
Immunization for Women

[www.immunizationforwomen.org/immunization\\_facts/vaccine-preventable\\_diseases/pertussis](http://www.immunizationforwomen.org/immunization_facts/vaccine-preventable_diseases/pertussis)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/pertussis/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/pertussis/default.htm)



# Coding Information on Tdap Immunization for Patients

## CPT Codes for Vaccine Administration

Code	Method	Route of Administration	Type of Service	Reporting Rules
90471	Injection	Percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular	Primary	Report only one primary vaccine administration per encounter. Physician also provides counseling.
+90472	Injection	Percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular	Additional	Report for secondary or subsequent vaccine administration. Physician also provides counseling. Report only with code 90471 or code 90473.
90460	Any route	Percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular	Primary	Report only one primary vaccine administration per day. Report for administration of first vaccine if more than one was provided. Physician also provides counseling. Patient is 18 years of age or younger.
90461	Any route	Percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular	Additional	Report for secondary or subsequent vaccine administration. Physician also provides counseling. Patient is 18 years of age or younger.

## Tdap Vaccines Administered to Adolescents and Adults

Vaccine	Code for Vaccine Product	CPT Administration Code
Tetanus, diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis (Tdap), patient 7 years of age or older, intramuscular	90715	90460-90472

For more information, please visit the Coding section on the Immunization for Women web page, [www.immunizationforwomen.org/practice\\_management/coding](http://www.immunizationforwomen.org/practice_management/coding).