

about vaccinations against tetanus (lockjaw), diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), and polio (poliomyelitis)

If the booster vaccinations against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough and polio are due at the same time, they can be administered starting at the age of 3 or 4 years (review current usage information) as a quadruple vaccine with a combination vaccine (Tdap-IPV). It contains less diphtheria and pertussis components than the combination vaccines used for primary immunization of infants and young children.

Lockjaw (tetanus) is a life-threatening infectious disease. The bacterium is found mainly in dirt and road dust and enters the skin through cuts, cracks, abrasions, or bites, and even through the most minor sites of injury, and then proliferates in the body and forms the disease-causing tetanus poison. Muscle cramps are characteristic of the very serious disease symptoms and can lead to attacks of suffocation when the respiratory muscles are affected. Despite modern treatment methods, over 10 to 20 percent of patients with tetanus die.

Diphtheria is a life-threatening infectious disease caused by the poison (toxin) of the diphtheria bacterium, which is transmitted mainly by airborne droplet infection. Before vaccinations were introduced, many children died from the infection that presented as throat, larynx, nose, and wound diphtheria, or they suffered damage to their heart muscle. The high participation in vaccinations has eliminated diphtheria, apart from few isolated cases, in Germany. However, since it continues to occur globally - including in some Eastern European countries - the risk of re-introduction and re-infection when travelling can occur at any time.

Whooping cough (pertussis) usually begins as a cold. With primary infections, severe spells of coughing occur after 1-2 weeks that can persist for several weeks or months. Often the paroxysmal attacks of coughing lead to shortness of breath and vomiting. During the first 6 months of life, the characteristic coughing may be absent; instead, respiratory failure is a threat. Whooping cough is dangerous because of serious complications such as lung and middle ear inflammation and permanent brain damage; even today, fatal courses of the disease occur. Particularly at risk are children with heart and lung disease, and infants. Over the past years, pertussis disease has increasingly been observed in adolescents and adults; it is possible to become ill with whooping cough several times. The course is generally milder and less typical than in childhood. This often leads to misdiagnosis of the cause. The most common symptom is a long-lasting, persistent cough that usually occurs at night. Unrecognized pertussis disease can lead an infant or small child to become infected.

Polio (poliomyelitis) is a viral disease that can lead to paralysis of the arms and legs, but also to respiratory paralysis and thus, suffocation. Most patients with paralysis suffer long-term damage. Since 1998, polio vaccinations are no longer performed with an oral vaccine but with a vaccine of killed polio virus (inactivated vaccine). Polio is no longer found in Europe. The disease is still common in some African and Asian countries (e.g., Afghanistan and Pakistan). The pathogens introduced by travelers from these regions can spread rapidly and lead to reintroduction of the disease when the population is not adequately vaccinated. Polio vaccinations must therefore be performed consistently, even today.

Vaccine

The vaccine against tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis and polio (Tdap-IPV) contains as essential components detoxified toxins (toxoids) of the tetanus and diphtheria pathogens, parts of the killed pertussis bacteria (acellular pertussis vaccine) and inactivated polio viruses that build immunity against the vaccinee. The vaccine is tolerated well because the amount of diphtheria and pertussis antigens is reduced. The vaccine is injected into the muscle. Your physician can provide you with information regarding the start and length of vaccine protection.

Who should be vaccinated?

The combination vaccine Tdap-IPV is suitable for vaccination starting from the age of 3 or 4 years (depending on the manufacturer). It is especially recommended for the booster immunization scheduled in the immunization passport for 9 to 17-year-olds as well as for additional necessary booster vaccinations in adulthood (once for all adults with the next required Td vaccination, women of childbearing age, caregivers of infants and infants living in the household, and/or before the birth of a child). Personnel of health services and community facilities should be vaccinated against pertussis in addition to tetanus, diphtheria and poliomyelitis. For a booster injection, 1 injection suffices. The combination vaccination can be given simultaneously with other vaccines; time intervals with other vaccinations do not have to be observed. If an indication for a whooping cough vaccination exists, it can be performed with a Tdap-IPV vaccine, even if the last Td vaccination was only 4 weeks before.

Who should not be vaccinated?

Anyone suffering from acute illness with a fever (above 38.5°C) that requires treatment should not be vaccinated. If a hypersensitivity to any vaccine component exists or if disease symptoms had occurred after a previous vaccination against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, and/or poliomyelitis (singly or in combination with vaccinations against other diseases) the vaccinating doctor will consult with you about the possibility of further vaccinations. In pregnant women, the benefits and risks of Tdap-IPV vaccination must be carefully weighed. Vaccination can be performed during the period of breast-feeding.

Behavior after vaccination

The vaccinated person does not require any special attention; however, unusual physical stress should be avoided within 3 days of vaccination. The doctor should be informed prior to vaccination if children are prone to cardiovascular reactions or have known immediate allergic reactions.

Possible local and systemic reactions following vaccination

After vaccination, redness or painful swelling may frequently occur at the injection site in addition to the desired immunity and corresponding disease protection. This is the body's normal reaction to the vaccine and usually occurs within 1-3 days, and seldom persists longer. In rare cases, the vaccine reaction is delayed by up to 14 days. Also within 1-3 days after vaccination (rarely persisting longer) general symptoms such as headache, chills, nausea, diarrhea, and joint pain may occur. In less than 5 percent of cases, the temperature may increase slightly to moderately; very rarely to 39.9°C and above. The above-mentioned reactions are generally temporary and quickly subside without long-term effects.

Are there possible complications from the vaccination?

Vaccination complications, beyond the normal extent of a vaccine reaction, are very rare consequences that have a significant negative impact on the vaccinee's health. In rare cases, vaccination against whooping cough and polio (Tdap-IPV) can lead to a hypersensitivity reaction of the skin or the respiratory tract; isolated cases of immediate allergic reactions (anaphylactic shock) have also been reported. As with administration of other vaccines containing tetanus and diphtheria, generally temporary nervous system have been reported in isolated cases for the Tdap-IPV vaccine (usually of the peripheral nervous system, e.g., mono- and polyneuritis, neuropathy).

Consultation with the vaccinating doctor about possible side effects

In addition to this leaflet, your doctor is available to meet for a consultation.

In the event that, following vaccination, symptoms should occur that are beyond the above-mentioned temporary local and general reactions, your immunizing doctor will of course also be at your disposal for advice.

You can reach the vaccinating doctor at:

Disclaimer

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Name *Name* _____

Vaccination against Tetanus, Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Polio

Schutzimpfung gegen Wundstarrkrampf, Diphtherie, Keuchhusten und Kinderlähmung

Please find enclosed an information sheet on the vaccination procedure against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, and polio (Tdap-IPV). It contains essential information about diseases preventable by vaccination, the vaccine, the vaccination, and immunization reactions and potential vaccine complications.

Anliegend erhalten Sie ein Merkblatt über die Durchführung der Schutzimpfung gegen Wundstarrkrampf, Diphtherie, Keuchhusten und Kinderlähmung (Td-ap-IPV). Darin sind die wesentlichen Angaben über die durch die Impfung vermeidbaren Krankheiten, den Impfstoff, die Impfung sowie über Impfreaktionen und mögliche Impfkomplicationen enthalten.

Before the vaccination is performed, the following additional information is requested:

Vor Durchführung der Impfung wird zusätzlich um folgende Angaben gebeten:

1. Is the vaccinee currently healthy?

Ist der Impfling gegenwärtig gesund?

yes (*Ja*)

no (*Nein*)

2. Has vaccinee experienced a disease of the nervous system, or does a seizure disorder exist?

Hat der Impfling eine Erkrankung des Nervensystems durchgemacht oder besteht ein Krampfleiden?

yes (*Ja*)

no (*Nein*)

3. Does the vaccinee have known allergies?

Ist bei dem Impfling eine Allergie bekannt?

yes (*Ja*)

no (*Nein*)

if so, which ones *wenn ja, welche?* _____

4. Did the vaccinee experience allergic reactions, high fever, or other unusual reactions after a previous vaccination?

Traten bei dem Impfling nach einer früheren Impfung allergische Erscheinungen, hohes Fieber oder andere ungewöhnliche Reaktionen auf?

yes (*Ja*)

no (*Nein*)

If you would like to know more about the vaccination against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, and polio, ask your vaccinating doctor!

Falls Sie noch mehr über die Schutzimpfung gegen Wundstarrkrampf, Diphtherie, Keuchhusten und Kinderlähmung wissen wollen, fragen Sie den Impfarzt!

Please bring your vaccination passport to the vaccination appointment!

Zum Impftermin bringen Sie bitte das Impfbuch mit!

Consent*Einverständniserklärung***to vaccination against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, and polio***zur Durchführung der Schutzimpfung gegen Wundstarrkrampf, Diphtherie, Keuchhusten und Kinderlähmung*

(Carbon copy forms are also available for vaccinees or their guardians to receive a copy in accordance with patient's right law)

(Es stehen auch Formulare mit Durchschlag zur Verfügung, um den Impfungen bzw. ihren Sorgeberechtigten gemäß Patientenrechtegesetz eine Kopie mitgeben zu können.)

Name of vaccinee _____

Name des Impflings

Date of birth _____

geb. am

I have read the information in this leaflet my doctor explained in detail the information about the vaccination in a meeting.

Ich habe den Inhalt des Merkblatts zur Kenntnis genommen und bin von meinem Arzt/meiner Ärztin im Gespräch ausführlich über die Impfung aufgeklärt worden.

I have no further questions.

Ich habe keine weiteren Fragen.

I agree to the suggested vaccination against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, and polio.

Ich willige in die vorgeschlagene Impfung gegen Wundstarrkrampf, Diphtherie, Keuchhusten und Kinderlähmung ein.

I reject the vaccination. I was informed about possible disadvantages of rejecting this vaccination.

Ich lehne die Impfung ab. Über mögliche Nachteile der Ablehnung dieser Impfung wurde ich informiert.

Comments: *Vermerke* _____

Place and date: *Ort, Datum* _____

Signature of vaccinee
or legal guardian

Unterschrift des Impflings bzw. des Sorgeberechtigten

Signature of doctor

Unterschrift des Arztes/der Ärztin