

Household Contacts of Immunocompromised Individuals

Assess the immunization status of household contacts of immunocompromised individuals. Ensure routine immunizations are up-to-date.

There are no contraindications to immunization of a household or close contact of immunosuppressed individuals.

Ensure that vaccination opportunities are not missed for household contacts of individuals with conditions that compromise their immune system.

As the immune response in individuals with compromised immune systems may be suboptimal, the immunization of household contacts provides important protection against transmission of disease in the household.

Offer yearly influenza immunization to all household contacts of immunocompromised individuals, regardless of whether or not the individual at high risk has been immunized. Household and close contacts of immunocompromised individuals can be immunized with MMR and varicella vaccines as the vaccine viruses are rarely transmitted to contacts.

No special precautions need to be taken post MMR immunization, regardless of whether or not a post-vaccine rash occurs.

After varicella immunization, no special precautions need to be taken unless the vaccine recipient develops a post-varicella vaccination rash within 42 days of vaccine receipt. Vaccine recipients should keep the rash covered. If this is not possible, they should minimize contact with susceptible immunocompromised individuals for the duration of the rash. If contact inadvertently occurs, the risk of transmission is low and administration of VarIlg is not indicated.