Asthma, COPD and Adult Vaccines

What you need to know about

People with asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are at higher risk for serious problems from certain vaccine-preventable diseases. COPD and asthma cause your airways to swell and become blocked with mucus, which can make it hard to breathe. Certain vaccine-preventable diseases can also increase swelling of your airways and lungs. The combination of the two can lead to pneumonia and other serious respiratory illnesses.

Vaccines are one of the safest ways for you to protect your health, even if you are taking prescription medications to control your asthma or COPD. Ensuring that you are up to date on all recommended vaccines can help to keep you healthy.

RECOMMENDED VACCINES

- Influenza Vaccine
- Pneumococcal Vaccine
- Tdap/Td Vaccine
- Shingles Vaccine
- HPV Vaccine

New Jersey Stat
In 2017, only 34.0% of adults with asthma between ages 18-64 years had received a pneumococcal vaccine.

New Jersey Stat
During the 2017-2018 flu season, only an estimated 41.3% of adults with asthma between ages 18-64 years had received a flu vaccine.

There may be other vaccines recommended for you based on your lifestyle, travel habits, and other factors. Talk to your healthcare professional about which vaccines are right for you.

Wondering where to get vaccines?
Vaccines may be available at your doctors’ office, pharmacy, workplace, community health clinic, health department, or other locations. Check out vaccinefinder.org to find adult vaccine providers in your area.

Does insurance cover vaccines?
Most insurance plans cover recommended vaccines. You can also check with local health departments, and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) regarding vaccine affordability.

For more information, please visit:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/rec-vac/health-conditions/lung-disease.html