



# Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



## Should I give DTaP-IPV-Hib or Tdap-IPV to my school aged patient?

### Antigen levels

Antigen levels vary significantly for diphtheria and pertussis depending on which vaccine is given. The amount of antigen in the vaccine affects the immune response. Younger children require vaccines containing higher antigen levels to ensure adequate protection. In general, the capitalized letter (e.g., D) contains a larger amount of antigen than the lower-case letter (e.g., d)

Antigen active ingredient	DTaP-IPV-Hib (Pediace)l	Tdap-IPV (Adacel-Polio)
Diphtheria Toxoid	15 Lf (limit of flocculation)	2 Lf
Acellular Pertussis Toxoid	20 ug	2.5 ug

### Who gets what?

- For children starting and completing primary series **before age 7**:
  - Ensure the child has a minimum of 3 valid **DTaP-IPV-Hib** (this is the **primary series**)
  - Give **Tdap-IPV** as a booster dose **AFTER** primary series is completed, **AND** if the client is **at least 4 years of age**
- For children starting immunization **prior to age 7 but completing after age 7**:
  - Give **DTaP-IPV-Hib** dose(s) as per recommended intervals, but once child reaches 7 years of age **switch over** to **Tdap-IPV** to complete their catch-up series
- For children starting immunization **on or after age 7**:
  - Use **Tdap-IPV** as catch-up

Please refer to the [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario](#).

In summary, children under age 7 need 3 **larger** antigen doses of diphtheria and pertussis. Please review their record before reaching for Tdap-IPV.

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