

Pertussis vaccination: acellular pertussis vaccine for the fourth and fifth doses of the DTP series update to supplementary ACIP statement. Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

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General recommendations on pertussis prevention were issued August 8, 1991, in the ACIP statement on diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (1). A supplementary statement on the use of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (DTaP) was issued February 7, 1992 (2) after the licensure of ACEL-IMUNE, prepared by Lederle Laboratories. With the recent licensure of a second DTaP product, Tripedia, this statement updates the supplement. Tripedia has a formulation that differs from that of ACEL-IMUNE. Both DTaP vaccines are licensed for use only as the fourth and/or fifth doses of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccination; they are not licensed for the initial three-dose series for infants and children, regardless of age. Whole-cell DTP should continue to be used for the initial three-dose series and remains an acceptable alternative for the fourth and fifth doses. For details on the background, indications, use, and precautions and contraindications of DTaP, refer to the earlier supplementary statement (2).