

Priority Topic: IMMUNIZATION

Key Features:

Dr Rudkin's Powerpoint is based on the Key Features - it's great and covers everything! [Immunizations & Exam Orientation - Dr Rudkin](#)

1. [Do not delay](#) immunizations unnecessarily (e.g., vaccinate a child even if he or she has a runny nose).

What you should study:

- ✓ [Immunizations & Exam Orientation - Dr Rudkin](#)

2. With parents who are [hesitant to vaccinate](#) their children, explore the reasons, and counsel them about the risks of deciding against routine immunization of their children.

What you should study:

- ✓ **AAFP Videos:** [Adult Vaccine Hesitancy - Influenza, Zoster, Pneumonia](#)
- ✓ [Strategies for overcoming vaccine hesitancy AAFP 2016](#)
- ✓ [Vaccine adverse events - separating myth from reality AAFP 2017](#)

3. Identify patients who will specifically benefit from immunization (e.g., not just the elderly and children, but also the immunosuppressed, travellers, those with sickle cell anemia, and those at special risk for pneumonia and hepatitis A and B), and ensure it is offered.

What you should study:

- ✓ PHAC Guidelines on Vaccines for Health Professionals
- ✓ Medical Consideration Before Travel NEJM 2016
- ✓ IDSA Guidelines - Vaccination of the Immunocompromised Host CID 2014 super long but very complete... use the "find" function to search
- ✓ Influenza Vaccine in the Elderly

4. Clearly document immunizations given to your patients.

5. In patients presenting with a suspected infectious disease, assess immunization status, as the differential diagnosis and consequent treatment in unvaccinated patients is different.

6. In patients presenting with a suspected infectious disease, do not assume that a history of vaccination has provided protection against disease (e.g., pertussis, rubella, diseases acquired while travelling).