

VACCINE POINTS

“Vaccine Points” is a bi-monthly communication distributed by the Hawaii Department of Health to all participating Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers.

Test your vaccine knowledge.

Question:

Which one of these patients, if any, should receive a DTaP vaccine today? Select all that apply.

- a) 4 month old boy with two afebrile seizures in the past month
- b) 15 month old girl with penicillin allergy
- c) 6 month old girl with a cold and low grade fever
- d) A healthy 2 month old whose sister has uncontrolled seizures
- e) 18 month old boy with a severe allergic reaction to his previous dose of DTaP
- f) 4 year old girl with cerebral palsy

Answer:

b, c, d, f



Misperceptions of contraindications to DTaP vaccination:

- History of penicillin allergy

- Mild acute illness with or without fever

- Family history of seizures

- Stable neurologic conditions (e.g., cerebral palsy)

A 4 month old boy with two afebrile seizures should not receive DTaP until a treatment regimen has been established and his condition has stabilized.

A severe allergic reaction to a previous dose of vaccine is a contraindication to further doses.

Source:

Best Practices Guidance of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

- Table 4-1. Contraindications and precautions to commonly used vaccines <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html#t-01>

- Table 4-2. Conditions incorrectly perceived as contraindications to vaccinations (i.e., vaccines may be given under these conditions) <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html#t-02>