
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 of the following, if any, is/are characteristic of inactivated vaccines? Select all that apply.

- a) Require multiple doses
- b) Immune response virtually identical to natural infection
- c) Active immunity may not develop due to interference from circulating antibodies
- d) Cannot replicate or cause disease, even in an immunodeficient person
- e) Contains attenuated form of the virus or bacterium
- f) None of the above

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/prinvac.html>

Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (Pink Book), 13th Edition

Source:

Inactivated vaccines always require multiple doses. In general, the first dose “primes” the immune system. A protective immune response develops after the second or third dose. In contrast to live vaccines, in which the immune response closely resembles natural infection, the immune response to an inactivated vaccine is mostly humoral.

- Produced by growing the bacterium or virus in culture media, then inactivating it with heat and/or chemicals
- Not alive and cannot replicate. These vaccines cannot cause disease from infection, even in an immunodeficient person
- Less affected by circulating antibody than are live agents, so they may be given when antibody is present in the blood

Inactivated vaccines are:

- a) Require multiple doses
- d) Cannot replicate or cause disease, even in an immunodeficient person

Answer:

