

Quick Facts

About... Immunizations for Flood Victims and Workers

What are the communicable disease risks associated with floods?

Outbreaks of communicable diseases after floods are unusual, but diseases may increase because of contaminated water, food spoilage, mosquito exposure, or crowded living conditions.

Flood victims and workers may be exposed to tetanus bacteria if wounds become contaminated from floodwaters or other materials. If you receive a puncture wound, laceration, or abrasion, see your health care provider or check with your local health department about any special health needs.

Do I need any special vaccinations?

- A tetanus-diphtheria (Td) booster is recommended for all adults every 10 years. A tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) booster should replace one regular Td dose to provide pertussis protection.
- Any adult who has not had the primary series of Td doses should complete the series.
- Children should have completed their recommended immunization doses.
- Vaccinations for conditions such as hepatitis A or B, cholera, malaria, or typhoid fever are not recommended.

What should I do if I or a member of my family needs immunizations?

Call your health care provider. You may also call your local health department for assistance.

All information presented is intended for public use. For more information, please refer to:

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/after.asp#immunizations>.

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