

# DOWN SYNDROME : IMMUNISATION

## Key Points

(based on DSMIG clinical awareness note- J Dennis and D Elliman)

**Note:** This advice is based on the current (april 2006) immunisation schedule – it will be revised when the new UK schedule is introduced

- **Give all vaccines that are part of universal UK schedule:**
  - **DTP** (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)
  - **Polio**
  - **Hib** (Haemophilus influenzae Type b)
  - **Meningococcal C**
  - **MMR** (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
  
- **Strong case for following additional vaccines:**
  - **Influenza for all**
  
  - **Pneumococcal for all**  
Until formal schedule is agreed consider:
    - Babies - **conjugate 7-valent vaccine** at 2, 4 and 13 months followed by polysaccharide 21 valent vaccine post age 5
    - Older non-immunised under 5s – **conjugate 7-valent vaccine** followed by **21-valent polysaccharide** post age 5
    - Non-immunised over 5s **give both**
  
- **Possible case for the following:**
  - **Hepatitis B**  
Need pre and post vaccine determination of immune status as per local schedules. Advice re timing and local schedules available from local paediatrician.  
  
Consider pre-care immunisation for adults going into residential care – accelerated course. (1st 3 doses within one month)
  
  - **BCG** - probably no indication unless in high risk group.

**There is increased possibility of non-response to immunisation and this should always be borne in mind.**

