

Preparing Liquid Vaccines

Before You Start

- Wash your hands.
- Gather alcohol pads, appropriate needle, and, as needed, syringe.
- Get the vial or syringe of vaccine.
- Check vaccine against physician's written order.
- Check that today's date is sooner than vaccine's expiration date.



Drawing Up Liquid Vaccine

Single-dose vials

- Remove plastic cap.
- Shake vial.
- Cleanse stopper with alcohol pad and **let it dry**.
- Assemble needle and syringe.
- Uncap needle.
- Hold vial steady on counter.
- Insert needle straight into center of vial stopper.
- Invert vial and pull needle back so the tip is in the liquid.
- Pull back on plunger and draw up entire contents of vial.
- Withdraw needle.
- Tap syringe and push out air.
- Recap the clean needle.



Multi-dose vials

- Remove plastic cap.
- Shake vial.
- Cleanse stopper with alcohol pad and **let it dry**.
- Assemble needle and syringe.
- Uncap needle.
- Pull back syringe plunger equal to one dose of vaccine, usually 0.5 cc.
- Hold vial steady on counter.
- Insert needle straight into center of stopper and inject air into vial.
- Invert vial so needle tip is in liquid.
- Withdraw one dose.
- Return needle and vial to counter top.
- Withdraw needle.
- Tap syringe and push out air.
- Recap the clean needle.



Pre-filled syringes

- Shake syringe thoroughly.
- Remove syringe tip cover.
- Attach needle to syringe.

