

IMMUNIZATIONS

Everyone with sickle cell disease should have complete regular immunizations against all common infections. Children should have all routine childhood vaccinations, and the following are important for everyone with sickle cell disease:

- Vaccination against Haemophilus influenza (the major cause of childhood meningitis)
- Influenza vaccinations (“flu shots”) every winter
- Pneumococcal conjugated vaccine (Prevnar). Children with sickle cell disease should receive 3 doses of Prevnar between 2 and 6 months of age, followed by 2 doses at age one, and then vaccinations at age two, five, and every five to ten years afterwards
- Hepatitis B vaccine