



Typhoid Vaccine

Injectable

What You Need to Know

Deployment Medication Information Sheets (DMIS) are provided by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM). Written for soldiers and their families, they provide basic information on deployment medications that are intended as guidance only; consult your health care provider for more information.

What is typhoid fever?

Typhoid fever is a disease of the intestines caused by *Salmonella typhi* bacteria. Symptoms of typhoid fever include high fever, weakness, stomach pains, headache, loss of appetite, and a rash of flat, rose-colored spots.

How do you get typhoid fever?

You get typhoid fever by eating food or drinking water contaminated with *Salmonella typhi* bacteria.

Who should get the vaccine and how is it given?



- If you are traveling to a country where typhoid is common, you should consider being vaccinated against typhoid. Talk to your health care provider about your vaccination options.
- With the current injectable vaccine our health care provider will give you one dose. (Older discontinued injectable typhoid vaccines required a two-dose primary series.) Booster immunization is required every 2 years for continued or repeated exposure.

Complete your vaccination at least 1 week before you travel so that the vaccine has time to take effect. The vaccine is about 70% effective in preventing typhoid fever, depending on the degree of exposure.

What does the military require?

The either the oral or injectable typhoid vaccine is required for alert forces during deployment or travel to typhoid endemic areas and other areas with poor sanitation.

Are there any side effects?

- The most common side effect is pain or redness at the injection site.
- Nausea, skin rash, headache, or mild fever may occur. If you have any of these symptoms and they become bothersome, call your health care provider.
- Talk to your health care provider if you have breathing or swallowing difficulty, itching, swelling of face or eyes, or sudden and severe tiredness.

Is there any reason I shouldn't get the vaccine?

- Tell your health care provider if you have any illnesses or infections.
- Tell your health care provider if you're taking any over-the-counter or prescription medicine, especially steroids or prednisone, cancer drugs, sulfa drugs, other antibiotics or other vaccines.
- Use of the cholera vaccine at the same time may increase the risk of adverse effects.

What if I'm pregnant or breast-feeding?

- The vaccine should be given during pregnancy only when clearly needed. Talk to your health care provider about the risks and benefits.
- It is not known if the vaccine appears in breast milk. Consult your health care provider before breast-feeding.

You *can* avoid getting typhoid fever!

- Get each vaccination as scheduled.
- Practice good hand washing and proper personal hygiene.
- Properly prepare and store foods.
- Use only Veterinary or Preventive Medicine-approved foods, beverages, or water.

Be sure the vaccination is recorded in your medical record.

Where can I get more information?

- Health care provider at your military treatment facility.
- Military Immunizations web page: www.tricare.osd.mil/immunization/vaccines.html
- CDC Specific Disease web site: www.cdc.gov/health/diseases.htm
- See other Deployment Medication Information Sheets (DMIS):
-- Typhoid Vaccine, Oral

DMIS Provided by:

*Disease and Injury Control Program
U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
5158 Blackhawk Road
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5403
410-436-2464 or DSN 584-2464
<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/dcpm/CDI/DMIS.htm>*

