

# Extensive nonadherence to vaccine guidelines in diabetes

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(HealthDay)—Among patients with diabetes, considered to be at increased risk of infection and infectious complications, there is considerable nonadherence to national guidelines for hepatitis B, influenza, and 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccines, according to a study published in the July issue of *Clinical Diabetes*.

Matthew J. Alcusky, Pharm.D., from the Thomas Jefferson University School of Population Health in Philadelphia, and Jayne Pawasauskas, Pharm.D., from the University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy in Kingston, conducted a single-center cross-sectional study to examine

adherence to national guidelines for immunization of patients with diabetes. The authors also examined predictors of vaccination with hepatitis B, influenza, and 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccines.

The researchers identified extensive nonadherence to immunization recommendations for all three vaccines among patients considered to be at increased risk for infection and infectious disease complications because of their history of diabetes. For hepatitis B vaccination, nonadherence to the 2011 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' recommendation was pervasive.

"Allocation of [health care resources](#) to increase vaccine coverage should remain a priority, with a focus on spreading awareness of the hepatitis B vaccine recommendation for people with diabetes," the authors write.

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