

September 24, 2025

## **Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group – USA Statement on Vaccines**

Below you will find the official statement on vaccines from the Down Syndrome Medical Interest Group – USA (DSMIG-USA). The statement is provided in two versions for different audiences. The Academic Statement is intended for academic audiences or those with a more extensive clinical background. The Community Statement includes accessible language and is intended to be distributed more generally. DSMIG-USA members can distribute either or both statements to any relevant audience in your sphere.

### **Academic Statement:**

People with Down syndrome experience increased morbidity and mortality from several infections for which vaccines are available and effective. We are an international group of expert physicians and scientists in Down syndrome. We have thoroughly reviewed the medical research and publicly available data and have uniformly come to the consensus that vaccines are safe, effective, and recommended in people with Down Syndrome. We strongly believe that all people with Down syndrome should receive, at a minimum, the standard schedule of vaccines recommended for the general population. In addition, several vaccines are recommended at an expedited schedule in people with Down syndrome due to their underlying susceptibility to serious infection.

### **Community Statement:**

Research and clinical experience show that children and adults with Down syndrome are more likely to get very sick from certain infections. Available vaccines are safe and protect against many of these infections. We are a group of doctors and scientists with significant experience with Down syndrome. We continue to review all the research on vaccines and people with Down syndrome. We are all in agreement that vaccines are safe and effective for people with Down syndrome. We know that getting vaccinated is one of the most important things that can be done to protect the health for someone with Down syndrome.

People with Down syndrome should receive all recommended vaccines. In some cases, your doctor may recommend that someone with Down syndrome get additional vaccines. This is done to provide extra protection from certain infections that could be more severe for people with Down syndrome.