



# Adacel<sup>®</sup> Vaccine or Boostrix<sup>®</sup> Vaccine

(Tetanus, Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis Vaccine)

**Adacel<sup>®</sup> and Boostrix<sup>®</sup> are vaccines that protect against three serious infections – tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis**

- Either vaccine can be given to people four to 64 years of age
- One dose is given between the ages of 14 and 16 years
- One dose is given to adults 19 to 64 years of age to replace one of the boosters for tetanus and diphtheria that are given every ten years
- The vaccine is given as an injection in the upper arm

## Mild side effects may occur, such as:

- Redness, swelling or discomfort at the injection site
  - Fever, headache, body ache, diarrhea, vomiting, sore joints or decreased energy
- Severe side effects are rare

## People should delay or avoid this immunization if they:

- Have a fever or are fighting an infection, unless it is a simple cold
- Have an allergy to aluminum
- Are pregnant
- Are taking immune suppressing medications

### Tetanus

- Is also known as lockjaw
- Causes painful, prolonged muscle spasms of the jaw, neck, arms, leg and stomach
- Can lead to broken bones, suffocation, or death
- Is caused by tetanus bacteria that enter the body through a cut or wound in the skin. These bacteria are found in the environment, usually in soil, dust or manure

### Diphtheria

- Mainly affects the nose and throat area
- Causes sore throat, fever, loss of appetite
- Makes the underlying tissue in the neck become red, swollen and painful
- Can lead to breathing problems, difficulty swallowing, pneumonia, brain damage or death
- Spreads easily from person to person through talking, coughing or sneezing

### Pertussis

- Is also known as whooping cough
- Causes a cough that can last for six to 12 weeks, making eating, drinking and sleeping difficult
- Can lead to breathing difficulties, pneumonia, brain damage or death, especially in infants
- Is contagious for seven days prior to coughing until 21 days after the onset of cough, if left untreated
- Spreads easily from person to person through talking, coughing or sneezing

For further information, please call:  
**York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653**  
**TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca)**