



Post Splenectomy Vaccination and Antibiotic Schedule

It is very important to have amoxicillin prophylaxis to reduce the risk of Streptococcal bacteraemia.

It is recommended that the patient be on amoxicillin prophylaxis (250mg per day) for a minimum of 3 years post splenectomy, and preferably indefinitely.

Patient should also be provided with a prescription for “rescue” amoxicillin 3gm stat and 1gm tds for 5 days treatment. Patient should carry this prescription and should commence this high dose amoxicillin if he/she develops rigors, has a fever of 38 deg C or more without other explanation, and seek attention promptly once the oral amoxicillin has been commenced.

Patient may get extra vaccinations to reduce their risk of serious infections. They should complete vaccinations two to four weeks before a planned splenectomy. If they have an unplanned splenectomy, they should get them after they have recovered from the operation. Patient should also get them if they have been diagnosed with hyposplenism.

Which vaccinations the patient needs depends on what they have had before and what health professionals currently recommend.

The vaccines are free, and usually available at the GP surgery. There may be a consultation fee.

Patient will need boosters of some vaccinations to keep up immunity.

Patient should have a [flu vaccination](#) every year.

The Hernia Clinic

Level 1, 9 Caledonian Road, Christchurch 8013

P: (03) 961 6666

E: admin@herniaclinic.co.nz



Eligibility criteria apply for Southern Cross members



FRACS

Fellow of the
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons