

Centers for Disease Control Recommended Immunization Schedule

Persons age 0 through 18 years (shaded boxes indicate the vaccine can be given during shown age ranges)

Vaccines	Birth	1 mo	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	9 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	19-23 mos	2-3 yrs	4-6 yrs	7-10 yrs	11-12 yrs	13-15 yrs	16-18 yrs
Diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DTaP) (5-dose series)			1st dose	2nd dose	3rd dose			4th dose				5th dose				
Haemophilus influenzae type b4 (Hib)(3-4 dose series)			1st dose	2nd dose			3rd or 4th dose									
Hepatitis A (HepA)(2-dose series)							1st dose		2nd dose							
Hepatitis B (HepB) (3 dose)	1st dose	2nd dose			3rd dose											
Human papillomavirus (HPV) (2 dose series)														1st dose 2nd dose		
Influenza (IIV)					Annual											
Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)(4-dose series)			1st dose	2nd dose	3rd dose							4th dose				
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)(2-dose series)							1st dose					2nd dose				
Meningococcal														1st dose		2nd dose
Meningococcal B (high-risk persons)																
Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV13)(4-dose series)			1st dose	2nd dose	3rd dose		4th dose									
Pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV23)(high-risk persons)																
Rotavirus (RV) RV1 (2-dose series)			1st dose	2nd dose												
Tetanus, diphtheria & acellular pertussis (Tdap)														Single Dose		
Varicella (VAR)(2-dose series)							1st dose					2nd dose				

Childhood Vaccines: Tough Questions, Straight Answers



Childhood vaccines protect children from a variety of serious or potentially fatal diseases, including diphtheria, measles, polio and whooping cough (pertussis). If these diseases seem uncommon, it's because these vaccines are doing their job.

What is a vaccine?

When germs enter the body, the immune system recognizes them as foreign substances (antigens). The immune system produces the right antibodies to fight the antigens.

Vaccines contain weakened versions of a virus or versions that look like a virus (called antigens). This means antigens cannot produce the signs or symptoms of the disease, but they do stimulate the immune system to create antibodies. These antibodies help protect you if you are exposed to the virus in the future.

Vaccines not only help keep your child healthy, they help all children by stamping out serious childhood diseases.

Are vaccines safe?

Vaccines are generally safe. The protection provided by vaccines far outweighs the very small risk of serious problems. Vaccines have made many childhood diseases rare today. Talk to your family medicine provider if you have any questions.

Do vaccines have side effects?

Some vaccines may cause mild, temporary side effects, such as a fever, soreness, or a lump under the skin where the shot was given. Your family medicine provider will talk to you about possible side effects.

Is natural immunity better than vaccination?

A natural infection might provide better immunity than vaccination, but there are serious risks. For example, a

natural chickenpox infection could lead to pneumonia. A natural polio infection could cause permanent paralysis. A natural mumps infection could lead to deafness. Vaccination can help prevent these diseases and their potentially serious consequences.

Are there any reasons my child should not be vaccinated?

In special situations, children should not be vaccinated. For example, some vaccines should not be given to children who have certain types of cancer or other diseases.

If your child has a serious reaction to the first shot in a series of shots, your family medicine provider will probably talk with you about the pros and cons of giving him or her the rest of the shots in the series.

Do vaccines cause autism?

Vaccines do not cause autism. Despite much controversy on the topic, researchers haven't found a connection between autism and childhood vaccines.

When should my child be vaccinated?

The schedule on the reverse side of this publication includes recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in effect as of January 1, 2017.

Any dose not administered at the recommended age should be administered at a subsequent doctor's visit, when indicated and feasible.

For further guidance on the use of the vaccines mentioned in this publication, see: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html or visit with your family medicine provider.

PROTECT THEIR FUTURE!

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