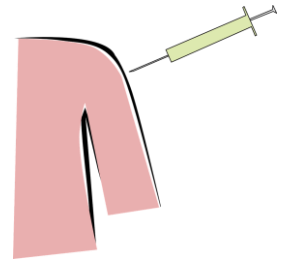


Childhood Immunization

What are immunizations?

Immunization is the best and safest way to help stop your baby from becoming sick from various infectious diseases. Babies are given vaccines, which stimulate the body to produce antibodies. Antibodies are the body's natural defense system to fight infectious diseases. Getting all the shots recommended by age 2 will protect your child from 14 dangerous diseases, including: mumps, tetanus, chicken pox, hepatitis.



When does my child need shots?

Shots work best when children get them at certain ages. Medical providers follow a schedule of shots that begins at birth.

If your child is late getting vaccinated, he or she may be able to get “catch-up” shots after age 6.

How to make shots easier for your child

- Stay calm to help your child stay calm.
- Distract your child during the shot. Tell a joke, sing a song, or point to a picture on the wall.
- Praise your child after the shot is over.

After getting a vaccine

Some children will be fussy, have redness and swelling where the shot was given, or a fever. This is normal. In rare cases, shots can lead to things that need to be checked by a doctor. Call your child's provider right away if your child has any problems listed below.

- A fever over 100° F
- Seizures or muscle spasms
- Trouble waking from sleep
- Constant crying for more than 3 hours



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