

Vaccines for Young Children

Vaccines help prevent disease. Babies born in the United States may have their first vaccines right after birth. Future vaccines are given at well child check-ups with your child's doctor or at a local health department. Vaccines are needed for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) visits or when children enroll in school.

Vaccines are also called immunizations. They are often given as injections with a needle, also called shots. Vaccines are either given as a single dose or as many doses given over time. **The full number of doses for each vaccine must be given for the vaccine to protect your child from the disease.**

The vaccine schedule on the next page is for children birth to 6 years old (last updated February, 2020). More vaccines are needed for older children. Check with your child's doctor or local health department for the most current schedule and to get any needed vaccines your child has not yet had.

If your child misses a shot, you don't need to start over. Just go back to your child's doctor for the next shot.

Children with certain medical problems or who travel outside of the United States may need more vaccines.

You will get more information about each vaccine when it is being given to your child. Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions.

Age	Vaccines
Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hepatitis B: 1st dose
2 months old	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hepatitis B: 2nd dose at 1 to 2 months• DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis): 1st dose• Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b): 1st dose• Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV13): 1st dose• Polio (IPV): 1st dose• Rotavirus (RV): 1st dose• Meningococcal: 2 months through 18 years for certain high risk groups
4 months old	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis): 2nd dose• Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b): 2nd dose• Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV13): 2nd dose• Polio (IPV): 2nd dose• Rotavirus (RV): 2nd dose

Age	Vaccines
6 months old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis B: 3rd dose at 6 to 18 months • DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis): 3rd dose • Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b): 3rd dose depending on vaccine series • Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV13): 3rd dose • Polio (IPV): 3rd dose at 6 to 18 months • Rotavirus (RV): if 3 dose vaccine series • Influenza: yearly beginning at 6 months
12 months old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b): 3rd or 4th dose at 12 to 15 months depending on vaccine series • Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV13): 4th dose at 12 to 15 months • Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR): 1st dose at 12 to 15 months • Varicella: 1st dose at 12 to 15 months • Hepatitis A: 1st dose at 12 to 23 months (given as 2 doses that are 6 months apart)
15 to 18 months old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis): 4th dose
2 to 3 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV23): 2 years through 18 years for certain high risk groups
4 to 6 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis): 5th dose • Polio (IPV): 4th dose • Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR): 2nd dose • Varicella: 2nd dose

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020 Recommended Vaccinations for Infants and Children (birth through 6 years) Parent-Friendly Version; Pneumococcal Vaccination; Hepatitis A Vaccination. CDC.gov.

After Getting a Vaccine

Some children will be fussy, have redness and swelling where the shot was given, or a fever. This is normal.

Call your child's doctor right away if your child has any of these problems:

- Wheezing or problems breathing
- Swelling of the neck or face
- Convulsions (seizures) or muscle spasms
- Trouble waking from sleep
- Rectal temperature over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit in children under 4 months or over 102 degrees Fahrenheit in children over 4 months.
- Constant crying for more than 3 hours, no matter what you do
- Rash or hives

Vaccine Record

Bring your child's vaccine record with you each time you visit your child's doctor or your local health department. Keep your child's vaccine record so you will have it for:

- Women, Infants and Children (WIC) visits, a food aide program
- Head Start, a preschool program
- Day care
- School

Talk to your child's doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.