

Refusal to Vaccinate

Child's Name: _____ Child's ID # _____

Parent's/Guardian's Name: _____

My child's doctor/nurse, _____ has advised me that my child (named above) should receive the following vaccines:

Recommended

- Hepatitis B vaccine
- Diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis (DTaP or Tdap) vaccine
- Diphtheria tetanus (DT or Td) vaccine
- Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccine
- Pneumococcal conjugate or polysaccharide vaccine
- Inactivated poliovirus (IPV) vaccine
- Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine.
- Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine
- Influenza (flu) vaccine
- Meningococcal conjugate or polysaccharide vaccine
- Hepatitis A vaccine
- Rotavirus vaccine
- Human papillomavirus vaccine
- Other

Declined

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I have read the Vaccine Information Statement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention explaining the vaccine(s) and the disease(s) it prevents. I have had the opportunity to discuss this with my child's doctor or nurse, who has answered all of my questions regarding the recommended vaccine(s). I understand the following:

- The **purpose** of and the need for the recommended vaccine(s)
- The **risks and benefits** of the recommended vaccine(s)
- If my child does not receive the vaccine(s) according to the medically accepted schedule, **the consequences** may include:
 - Contracting the illness the vaccine should prevent (The outcomes of these illnesses may include one or more of the following: certain types of cancer, pneumonia, illness requiring hospitalization, death, brain damage, paralysis, meningitis, seizures, and deafness. Other severe and permanent effects from these vaccine-preventable diseases are possible as well)
 - Transmitting the disease to others
 - Requiring my child to stay out of child care or school during disease outbreaks
- My child's doctor or nurse, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention all strongly recommend that the vaccine(s) be given according to recommendations.

Nevertheless, I have decided at this time to decline or defer the vaccine(s) recommended for my child, as indicated above, by checking the appropriate box under the column titled "Declined."

I know that failure to follow the recommendations about vaccination may endanger the health or life of my child and others with which my child might come into contact.

I know that I may readdress this issue with my child's doctor or nurse at any time and that I may change my mind and accept vaccination for my child anytime in the future.

I acknowledge that I have read this document in its entirety and fully understand it.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

I have had the opportunity to rediscuss my decision not to vaccinate my child and still decline the recommended immunizations.

Parent's initials _____ Date _____ Parent's initials _____ Date _____

Parent's initials _____ Date _____ Parent's initials _____ Date _____



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American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

Your child needs vaccines as they grow!



2025 Recommended Immunizations for Birth Through 6 Years Old


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VACCINE OR PREVENTIVE ANTIBODY	BIRTH	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	4 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	7 MONTHS	8 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	15 MONTHS	18 MONTHS	19 MONTHS	20-23 MONTHS	2-3 YEARS	4-6 YEARS	
RSV antibody	Depends on mother's RSV vaccine status						Depends on child's health status								
Hepatitis B	Dose 1	Dose 2			Dose 3										
Rotavirus			Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3										
DTaP			Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3				Dose 4					Dose 5	
Hib			Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3			Dose 4							
Pneumococcal			Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3			Dose 4							
Polio			Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3								Dose 4		
COVID-19	Parents/caregivers should talk to their health care provider to decide if this vaccine is right for their child														
Influenza/Flu	Every year. Two doses for some children														
MMR								Dose 1						Dose 2	
Chickenpox								Dose 1						Dose 2	
Hepatitis A							2 doses separated by 6 months								

KEY

-  ALL children should be immunized at this age
-  SOME children should get this dose of vaccine or preventive antibody at this age

 Parents/caregivers should talk to their health care provider to decide if this vaccine is right for their child

Talk to your child's health care provider for more guidance if:

1. Your child has any medical condition that puts them at higher risk for infection.
2. Your child is traveling outside the United States. Visit wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel for more information.
3. Your child misses a vaccine recommended for their age.

Sources



FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call toll-free: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
Or visit: www2.cdc.gov/vaccines/childquiz/



[Click here to access Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Vaccine and Your Baby Booklet](#)

[Click here to access Vaccine Safety Information](#)

What diseases do these vaccines protect against?

BIRTH–6 YEARS OLD

VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASE	DISEASE COMPLICATIONS
RSV (Respiratory syncytial virus) Contagious viral infection of the nose, throat, and sometimes lungs; spread through air and direct contact	Infection of the lungs (pneumonia) and small airways of the lungs; especially dangerous for infants and young children
Hepatitis B Contagious viral infection of the liver; spread through contact with infected body fluids such as blood or semen	Chronic liver infection, liver failure, liver cancer, death
Rotavirus Contagious viral infection of the gut; spread through the mouth from hands and food contaminated with stool	Severe diarrhea, dehydration, death
Diphtheria* Illness caused by a toxin produced by bacteria that infects the nose, throat, and sometimes skin	Swelling of the heart muscle, heart failure, coma, paralysis, death
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)* Contagious bacterial infection of the lungs and airway; spread through air and direct contact	Infection of the lungs (pneumonia), death; especially dangerous for babies
Tetanus (Lockjaw)* Bacterial infection of brain and nerves caused by spores found in soil and dust everywhere; spores enter the body through wounds or broken skin	Seizures, broken bones, difficulty breathing, death
Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b) Contagious bacterial infection of the lungs, brain and spinal cord, or bloodstream; spread through air and direct contact	Depends on the part of the body infected, but can include brain damage, hearing loss, loss of arm or leg, death
Pneumococcal Bacterial infections of ears, sinuses, lungs, or bloodstream; spread through direct contact with respiratory droplets like saliva or mucus	Depends on the part of the body infected, but can include infection of the lungs (pneumonia), blood poisoning, infection of the lining of the brain and spinal cord, death
Polio Contagious viral infection of nerves and brain; spread through the mouth from stool on contaminated hands, food or liquid, and by air and direct contact	Paralysis, death
COVID-19 Contagious viral infection of the nose, throat, or lungs; may feel like a cold or flu. Spread through air and direct contact	Infection of the lungs (pneumonia); blood clots; liver, heart or kidney damage; long COVID; death
Influenza (Flu) Contagious viral infection of the nose, throat, and sometimes lungs; spread through air and direct contact	Infection of the lungs (pneumonia), sinus and ear infections, worsening of underlying heart or lung conditions, death
Measles (Rubeola)† Contagious viral infection that causes high fever, cough, red eyes, runny nose, and rash; spread through air and direct contact	Brain swelling, infection of the lungs (pneumonia), death
Mumps† Contagious viral infection that causes fever, tiredness, swollen cheeks, and tender swollen jaw; spread through air and direct contact	Brain swelling, painful and swollen testicles or ovaries, deafness, death
Rubella (German Measles)† Contagious viral infection that causes low-grade fever, sore throat, and rash; spread through air and direct contact	Very dangerous in pregnant women; can cause miscarriage or stillbirth, premature delivery, severe birth defects
Chickenpox (Varicella) Contagious viral infection that causes fever, headache, and an itchy, blistering rash; spread through air and direct contact	Infected sores, brain swelling, infection of the lungs (pneumonia), death
Hepatitis A Contagious viral infection of the liver; spread by contaminated food or drink or close contact with an infected person	Liver failure, death

*DTaP protects against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis

†MMR protects against measles, mumps, and rubella