

INFANTS AND CHILDREN VACCINATION

Breast milk can help protect against many diseases. However, this immunity wears off after breastfeeding is over.

Several vaccines are often combined into one injection (i.e pertussis, diphtheria, tetanus, polio, and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b) A combination vaccine simply reduces the number of injections needed and does not reduce the safety or effectiveness of the vaccines.

Claims that vaccines cause autism or other diseases have been carefully researched and disproved.

Vaccines can cause **mild side effects**,

- redness and swelling at the site of injection.
- Fever
- Loss of appetite

These effects go away within a few days and can often be controlled by taking over-the-counter pain medication as advised by a doctor, or applying a cold cloth to the injection site.

No evidence has been found linking vaccines as a cause of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). American Academy of Pediatrics says that making sure your child is fully immunized can help reduce the risk for SIDS.

Vaccines contain a dead or weakened form of the disease-causing virus or bacteria and work by mimicking infection of a certain disease - but not its symptoms - in your child's body. This **stimulates your child's immune system** to develop weapons called antibodies.

Infants are particularly **vulnerable** to infections; that is why it is so important to protect them with **immunization**.

Vaccines **protect** your child against **serious illnesses** that can cause serious harm or death like polio, which can cause paralysis; measles, which can cause brain swelling and blindness; and tetanus, which can cause painful muscle contractions and difficulty eating and breathing, especially in newborns.

All vaccines go through **strict safety testing**, including clinical trials, before they are approved for the public. Countries will only register and distribute vaccines that meet rigorous quality and safety standards.

Vaccination does not need to be delayed if children have a slight fever resulting from a mild infection, such as an ordinary cold.

Receiving two doses of primary **mRNA COVID-19 vaccine** series during pregnancy might help prevent your infant from being hospitalized for COVID-19 in the first six months after birth

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