Immunizations for children

Children who are fully immunized are more likely to be protected against disease and less likely to pass on vaccine-preventable diseases to others.

- Many parents don’t know that diseases like measles and whooping cough are still around — and they can make babies very sick.
- Baby vaccines can protect your child from many dangerous childhood diseases.
- Baby vaccinations begin at birth. Ask your medical provider or nurse to make sure your baby gets the first hepatitis B shot before leaving the hospital.
- It takes more than one. Vaccines are given in a series. They start when your baby is born.
- Your child needs at least six immunization visits by age 2.
- If your baby misses a recommended vaccine, you do not need to start over, just go back to your provider for the next dose in the series.
- Keep records. Be sure to get an immunization record from your health care provider, bring it to each visit and have it filled out for each vaccine received. You will need to show this record when your child goes to child care or school.
- If you change providers or clinics, have them contact the ALERT IIS to access your child’s past immunization history.

For more information

You may be eligible for free or low-cost immunizations for your child. To learn more contact:

- Your baby’s health care provider or nurse;
- Your county health department; or
- Oregon 211info by calling 211 or 1-800-723-3638. You may also visit 211info.org online.

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### Immunizations for children (continued)

Schedule of childhood vaccinations and the diseases they protect against.

#### At birth

- **HepB (Hepatitis B) vaccine protects against:** Hepatitis B, a virus that may lead to a serious infection and disease of the liver, including cancer.

#### 2 months

- **HepB**
- **DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) vaccine protects against:** Diphtheria, which affects the throat and nose, making it hard to breathe. It can cause nerve problems, swelling of the heart and even death. Diphtheria may lead to a serious infection and disease of the liver, including cancer. Tetanus (lockjaw), which causes painful muscle spasms. It kills almost half of its victims. Pertussis (whooping cough), which causes dangerous coughing fits that make it very hard to breathe. It can cause pneumonia, convulsions and sometimes death.
- **Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type B) vaccine protects against:** Haemophilus influenzae type B, which causes brain swelling that can result in permanent damage or death. It can cause infections of the blood, joint, throat or heart.
- **Polio vaccine protects against:** Polio, which causes paralysis of the muscles. Most people never fully recover.
- **PCV (Pneumococcal) vaccine protects against:** Pneumococcal disease, which is one of the leading causes of ear infections, meningitis, pneumonia, and sinus and blood infections among children.
- **RV (Rotavirus) vaccine protects against:** Rotavirus infection, which can cause severe diarrhea, vomiting, fever and dehydration in infants and young children.

#### 4 months

- **DTaP**
- **Hib**
- **Polio**
- **PCV**
- **RV**

#### 6 months

- **HepB**
- **DTaP**
- **Hib**
- **Polio**
- **PCV**
- **RV**
- **Influenza vaccine protects against:** Influenza (the flu), which is a highly contagious disease that causes cold symptoms and fever. It can lead to pneumonia and hospitalization in children under 1 year of age.

#### 12 months

- **DTaP**
- **Hib**
- **PCV**
- **MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) vaccine protects against:** Measles, which causes a rash and high fever. It can cause deafness, brain damage or death. Mumps, which can cause swelling of the neck glands, nerve damage and deafness. Rubella, which usually is a mild illness for children; however, a pregnant woman who gets rubella may lose her baby, or her baby may be born deaf or with other problems.
- **Varicella vaccine protects against:** Varicella (chicken pox), which is usually a mild disease in healthy children. In severe cases it can cause infection leading to death.
- **HepA (Hepatitis A) vaccine protects against:** Hepatitis A, which is a liver disease that can cause fever, loss of appetite, nausea and abdominal pain.

#### 15-24 months

- **HepA**
- **Influenza**
- **Catch-up vaccines**