

This immunization schedule is from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and is fully supported by Cook Children's Health Care System.

#### Birth

- HepB (hepatitis B virus vaccine)

#### 1-2 months

- HepB (hepatitis B virus vaccine) – second dose
- RV (rotavirus vaccine)
- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis vaccine)
- Hib (haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine)
- IPV (inactivated poliovirus vaccine)
- PCV (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)

#### 4 months

- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis vaccine)
- Hib (haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine)
- IPV (inactivated poliovirus vaccine)
- PCV (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)
- RV (rotavirus vaccine)

#### 6 months

- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis vaccine)
- Hib (haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine)
- IPV (inactivated poliovirus vaccine)
- RV (rotavirus vaccine)
- PCV (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)
- Influenza (flu vaccine) – given to infants over 6 months of age

#### 6-12 months

- HepB (hepatitis B virus vaccine)
- IPV (inactivated poliovirus vaccine)

#### 12-18 months

- MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella [German measles] vaccine)
- Varicella (chickenpox vaccine)
- HepA (hepatitis A vaccine) – given as two shots, at least six months apart
- PCV (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)
- Hib (haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine)
- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis vaccine)

#### 4-6 years

- MMR (measles, mumps and rubella [German measles] vaccine)
- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis vaccine)
- IPV (inactivated poliovirus vaccine)
- Varicella (chickenpox vaccine)

#### 11-12 years

- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine – a booster dose is recommended at age 16
- Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis booster)
- HPV (human papillomavirus vaccine) – given in two to three shots depending child's age at first shot

#### 16-18 years

- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine – booster dose is recommended at age 16
- MenB (meningococcal B vaccine) – if recommended by your pediatrician
- HPV (human papillomavirus vaccine) – given in two to three shots depending child's age at first shot

*\*Doctor recommended vaccination schedules may vary slightly. Some of the following vaccinations may be given as part of a combination vaccine so that a child gets fewer shots. Talk with your doctor about any questions or concerns you have regarding your child's vaccination schedule.*

**At Cook Children's, we're very concerned about the rise in preventable diseases and the risks they pose to babies, kids, teens and adults. To help clear up some of the confusion and to help you make wise decisions, here are the basic facts.**

**Facts about vaccines:**

**1. Vaccines don't cause autism**

There is no scientific evidence or research that proves a direct link between vaccines and autism – or any other behavior disorder. The one study that claimed to have found a link has since been debunked and was withdrawn by the journal that published it. Unfortunately, the myth continues to spread.

**2. Vaccines are effective**

Vaccines have wiped out polio and smallpox in the United States. However, other preventable and deadly diseases still kill children every year.

**3. Vaccines are safe**

Study after study has shown vaccines to be safe. Doctors cannot use a vaccine unless the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved it as safe and effective. Even after the FDA approves a vaccine, it continues to be studied to ensure its safety.

**4. Several shots at one time is OK**

There is a medical reason for this. Medicine is science and so it requires a lot of testing to understand what works and what doesn't. The number of shots and the combination of those shots have been determined by years of testing to assure the safest and most effective results. Alternative schedules leave children at risk for serious illness and death. There is no advantage to delaying immunizations. Many parents have found information that suggests they can make up their own schedule. This can be risky because a random schedule has not been tested.

**5. Some children do experience side effects**

It is true that some children can have side effects from a shot, just as they can when taking a medication. But it is important to know that most side effects are minor and temporary, such as a sore arm or fever. Choosing not to vaccinate your child has far greater risks.

**6. Some people should not be immunized**

Yes, this is true. There are some uncommon circumstances when certain people should not be given vaccines, such as those who are getting chemotherapy or those with immune deficiencies. However, vaccine-preventable diseases can cause serious complications in people with health issues, such as asthma, heart disease, cancer and diabetes. Most children who have minor illnesses can still get their recommended vaccines depending on which vaccine is needed and the type and severity of the illness.

**For more information, visit [cookchildrensimmunizations.org](http://cookchildrensimmunizations.org)**