

How do I know when to take my baby in for vaccinations?

Your healthcare provider should give you a reminder when the next doses are due. If you are not sure, call your clinic or health care provider's office to find out when you should bring your child back. Doses cannot be given too close together or immunity doesn't have time to build up. On the other hand, you don't want to delay your child's vaccinations and get behind schedule because during this time, your child remains unprotected against these diseases.

What if I miss an appointment? Does my baby have to start the vaccinations all over again?

No. If your baby misses some doses, it's not necessary to start over. Your provider will continue from where he or she left off.

How do I keep track of my baby's vaccinations?

Your healthcare provider should give you a copy of your baby's immunization record. If you don't receive one, ask! Whenever your baby receives a vaccination, make sure you get an updated immunization record. Your child will benefit by retaining an accurate vaccination record throughout his or her life.

What if my child isn't a baby anymore? Is it too late to get him or her vaccinated?

No. Although it's best to have your child begin vaccinations as a newborn, it's never too late to start. If your child has not received any, or all of his or her vaccinations, now is the best time to start.

Recommended Vaccines

Ask your child's healthcare provider about catch-up vaccines or other vaccines that may be needed due to chronic illness or travel.

Child's Age	Recommended Vaccines Example: PCV 3 = third dose of PCV
Birth	Hep B 1 (hepatitis B)
2 months	Hep B 2 (hepatitis B), DTaP 1 (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis), Polio 1 (IPV), Hib 1 (haemophilus influenzae type b), PCV 1 (pneumococcal disease), ROTA 1 (rotavirus)
4 months	DTaP 2, Polio 2, Hib 2, PCV 2, ROTA 2
6 months	Hep B 3, DTaP 3, Hib 3, PCV 3, ROTA 3*, Polio 3 *ROTA 3 (may not be needed - depends on brand)
6 months and older	Every Fall: Flu Vaccination
12 months	Hib 4, PCV 4, Hep A 1, MMR 1 (measles, mumps and rubella), VAR 1 (chickenpox)
15-18 months	DTaP 4
18 - 24 months	Hep A 2
4 - 6 years	DTaP 5, Polio 4, VAR 2, MMR 2
11 - 18 years	MCV 1 (meningococcal), MCV 2, Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis), HPV 1 (human papillomavirus), HPV 2, HPV 3

REMEMBER!

Keep a copy of your child's immunization records.

And keep a copy of your records, too.



Everyone Needs Vaccinations!



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Division of Public Health Services
New Hampshire Immunization Program
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NH Immunization Program

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES



The Child Vaccination Program
and the
Immunization Action Coalition

For more information, contact
www.vaccineinformation.org
or www.immunize.org

What if I can't afford to get my self or my child vaccinated?

In the State of New Hampshire, vaccines are offered at no charge to children from "birth" to their 19th birthday. Your healthcare provider's office may charge an administration fee for administering the vaccines, but they may not deny vaccines to a child due to an inability to pay the administration fee. Don't let this keep you from immunizing your child. Your child's health depends on it!

What diseases do vaccines protect against?

Vaccines protect against diseases like measles, mumps, rubella, influenza, polio, hepatitis B, hepatitis A, tetanus, whooping cough (pertussis), chickenpox, rotavirus and more. Vaccines can't protect children from minor illnesses like colds, but they can keep children safe from many serious diseases.

away. If we stop vaccinating against these diseases, many more people will become infected. Vaccinating your child will keep him or her and others safe.

Isn't there some way besides vaccination to protect my baby against these diseases?

No. Breastfeeding offers temporary immunity against some minor infections like colds, but it is not an effective means of protecting a child from the specific diseases preventable by

What if my baby has a cold or fever, or is taking antibiotics? Can he or she still get vaccinated?

Yes. Your child can still be vaccinated if he or she has a mild illness, a low-grade fever, or is taking antibiotics. Ask your child's healthcare provider if you have questions.

Love Them! Protect Them! Immunize Them!

Parents and Grandparents

Adults need vaccinations, too! Call your health care provider, clinic or health department to find out what vaccinations you might need or when your next ones are due.

If you are without insurance or your insurance does not cover vaccines, your local New Hampshire community health care center may be able to help. To find the center near you, call New Hampshire's Public Inquiry Line by dialing 211 to find an agency near you.

What are vaccinations?

Vaccinations (vaccines) protect your child against serious diseases by stimulating the immune system to create antibodies against certain bacteria or viruses. Most vaccinations are given as injections.

Isn't all this talk about diseases just a way to scare parents so they'll bring their babies in for vaccines?

No! These diseases can injure and kill children in the United States. For example, whooping cough (pertussis) is an epidemic illness. In the United States 5,000-7,000 cases are reported each year and continues to rise. Major complications are most common among infants and young children.

I don't know anybody who has had measles or rubella. Why does my baby need these vaccines?

You might not think that measles and rubella are a threat today because you don't see or hear much about them, but they are still around. These diseases are common in other parts of the world and are just a plane ride

vaccines. Likewise, vitamins do not protect against the specific bacteria and viruses that cause these serious diseases. Of course, infection usually results in immunity, and some parents think that getting the "natural" disease is preferable to "artificial" vaccination. However, the price paid for natural disease can include paralysis, retardation, liver cancer, deafness, blindness, or even death.

Vaccination is definitely a better choice!

Are vaccinations safe?

Vaccines are safe and effective. Every vaccine undergoes many tests before being licensed, and its safety continues to be monitored as long as the vaccine is in use. Most side effects from vaccination are minor, such as soreness where the injection was given or a low-grade fever. These side effects do not last long and are treatable. Serious reactions are very rare. The tiny risk of a serious vaccine reaction has to be weighed against the very real risk of getting a dangerous vaccine-preventable disease. If you have concerns or questions, talk to your child's healthcare provider.

My child is a preteen and they are telling me that she needs more vaccines. Why do adolescents need even more vaccines?

The vaccines given in adolescence protect against whooping cough, tetanus, certain cancers and meningitis. These diseases continue to be a risk in adolescence and immunizing protects them from these serious diseases now and into adulthood.

