Caring for Your Baby Childhood Vaccinations

Vaccination and Effects of Disease	Side Effects of Vaccine	Comments
DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis) Diphtheria: Infection affecting the throat, nose, and skin; can lead to kidney or heart damage and is fatal n 10% of cases.	Local pain and tenderness at the injection site, mild fever, and irritability, all of which might last a day or two.	DTaP replaces the old DPT vaccine, and its use has greatly reduced the risk of serious side effects.
Tetanus: Severe spasm of the neck and jaw muscles (lockjaw), which is fatal in approximately 11% of cases. Pertussis (acellular): Long and severe bouts of coughing (whooping cough); 70% of pertussis deaths occur in children under 1 year of age.	Serious side effects: Crying lasting over 3 hours (11 in 10,000 vaccinations) Convulsions (3 in 100,000 vaccinations) Listlessness, floppiness, limp or pale (5 in 100,000 vaccinations)	Available in one injection along with Hep B and IPV (polio) vaccinations. This combination vaccine, called Pediarix, is given at 2, 4, and 6 months of age and reduces the number of injections for the baby.
Hep A (hepatitis A) Hepatitis A: Food-borne viral infection of the liver with symptoms of nausea, abdominal discomfort, weakness, and jaundice.	Temporary pain and tenderness at injection site.	Vaccine is capable of providing prolonged, but not lifelong, immunity.
	Occasionally, headache or fever.	Recommended for children in certain regions; ask your child's caregiver.
Hep B (hepatitis B) Hepatitis B: Blood-borne viral infection of the liver with symptoms of nausea, weakness, and jaundice; can lead to chronic liver infection, which is associated with cirrhosis and liver cancer.	Side effects are rare.	Some parents choose to delay the first vaccine to avoid stressing the baby.
	Localized pain and tenderness at injection site.	Some question the need for a baby to receive Hep B unless the mother carries the
	The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) states that research has not supported claims that this vaccine causes or worsens multiple sclerosis.	virus, because a baby is highly unlikely to get Hepatitis B from intravenous (IV) drug use or sexual encounters (the common modes of transmission).
Hib (H. influenza type b) Haemophilus influenza type b: Respiratory infection with cold-like symptoms and muscle aches and pains; Hib disease is the most common cause of bacterial meningitis. In 25 percent of cases, this type of meningitis can result in permanent brain damage.	Redness at injection site and mild fever that might last a day or two.	The most serious infections occur in the first 4 years of life.
	High fever (over 101.4°F or 38.5°C) occurs with 1 in 100 vaccinations.	
	Rarely, allergic reactions have been reported	
Influenza (inactivated influenza vaccine) Influenza: Viral infection with fever, cough, sore throat. It can lead to pneumonia and can cause high fevers and seizures in infants and children.	Soreness and redness at the injection site, occasional fever and aches lasting 1 to 2 days.	Parents might consider getting the influenzo vaccination themselves to protect young infants who can't be vaccinated until 6 months of age.
IPV (inactivated poliovirus vaccine) Polio: Viral infection with fever, headache, loss of appetite, vomiting, and sore throat; can lead to muscle weakness and paralysis; 10% of cases are fatal.	IPV may cause pain and tenderness at the injection site, but it doesn't cause paralytic polio.	IPV contains an inactivated (or dead) form of the virus.
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) Measles: Rash and fever; can possibly result in hearing oss, encephalitis, cognitive delays, or death. Mumps: Infection of the salivary glands; can result in a specific of testicles, possibly leading to sterility or in	Possible tenderness at the injection site and mild fever. 5-12 days later, may develop a rash and fever that might last a day or two.	Report a high fever or convulsion to your baby's health care provider.
nfection of testicles, possibly leading to sterility or in	May day alan mild tamparan i joint nain	
infection of testicles, possibly leading to sterility or in meningitis, possibly leading to deafness or death. Rubella (German measles): Not serious for children; for pregnant women, can cause miscarriage, stillbirth, or birth defects affecting the eyes, ears, heart, and	May develop mild, temporary joint pain 2 weeks or more after vaccination; the pair may cause your child to limp temporarily.	n

Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Newborn

Vaccination and Effects of Disease	Side Effects of Vaccine	Comments
PCV (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine) Pneumococcal disease: Bacterial disease that is a frequent cause of pneumonia, bacteremia (infection of the blood), sinusitis, and acute otitis media (ear infections); could cause meningitis or death.	Possible redness and soreness at injection site, loss of appetite, fussiness, and mild fever. Fever is more common for those	Duration of protection after vaccination is unknown.
	receiving DTaP at the same time.	Another form of this vaccine (pneumo-
	Very rarely, a high fever or convulsions can occur.	coccal polysaccharide vaccine, or PPV) is given to older children and adults, especially those 65 years and older.
Rota (rotavirus vaccine) Rotavirus: Infection with severe diarrhea, often accompanied by fever and vomiting. Occurs most commonly in infants and young children.	This vaccine, given by mouth, may cause mild, temporary diarrhea or vomiting in 1 to 3% of infants within 7 days of receiving the vaccine.	This vaccine should not be given to infants who are ill or who have diarrhea or vomiting
Var (varicella) Chicken pox: Viral infection with a mild fever and blister-like rash.	Localized pain at the injection site and mild fever.	Effects of the vaccine might not last until adulthood.
Rare but serious complications include scarring from the rash, serious skin infection, encephalitis, pneumonia, and even death.	Occasionally, the child develops a chicken pox-like rash at the injection site within 2 days, or a generalized rash in 1-3 weeks.	A person who has been vaccinated has less risk for developing shingles later in life than a person who had chicken pox.

For a current schedule of recommended vaccinations from the CDC, go to http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules. For more information about individual vaccines and variations in schedule, see http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines and *The Vaccine Book: Making the Right Decision for Your Child* by Robert Sears (2007).

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