



IMMUNIZATIONS (SHOTS): PROTECT YOUR BABY

One of the most important jobs we have as parents is to keep our children safe and healthy. Nothing protects babies better from serious diseases than vaccines (shots). They have saved the lives of millions of children. It is extremely important that babies get the vaccines their doctor recommends.

What diseases can be prevented with vaccines?

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| 1) Mumps | 9) Flu |
| 2) Measles | 10) Rubella |
| 3) Polio | 11) Meningococcal Disease |
| 4) Hepatitis A & B | 12) HPV-related cancers (human papilloma virus) |
| 5) Chickenpox | 13) Pneumococcal |
| 6) Hib (H. influenza type b) | 14) Rotavirus |
| 7) Tetanus | 15) Whooping Cough (Pertussis) |
| 8) Diphtheria | |

Are vaccines safe?

Absolutely! They have never been so safe. It is far safer to get the vaccines than run the risk of the disease. Vaccines are tested over and over before they are given to children. Even after vaccines have been approved, they continue to be monitored carefully.

Can vaccines cause a bad reaction in my child?

There may be some soreness where the shot is given. However, that is minor compared to what your child would go through if he got the disease. Serious side effects are very rare.

When do I take my baby for vaccines?

Follow the immunization schedule given by your baby's doctor. The doctor or nurse will give you an immunization tracking card. Bring the card to checkups so you will have your own record of the vaccines given.

Is it too late if my older child never got shots?

No. It's recommended to start as an infant. However, if your child hasn't received vaccines, you can start protecting them now. Talk with your child's doctor about a schedule.