

Why are vaccines IMPORTANT?

Children are more likely to get very sick from diseases that vaccines can stop. Vaccines help protect children from these serious health problems.

Complications that can be Prevented by Vaccines

Measles	Pneumonia, seizures, brain damage, and death
Mumps	Meningitis (infection of the protective tissue of the brain), brain damage, and permanent hearing loss
Varicella (Chickenpox)	Skin infection, pneumonia, encephalitis (infection of the brain), and death
Diphtheria	Myocarditis (heart inflammation), paralysis, and death
Tetanus	Lockjaw, paralysis, and death
Pertussis	Pneumonia and death
Polio	Paralysis and death

Vaccines are SAFE

Vaccines are tested carefully to make sure they are safe. Every year, millions of children get vaccines without any problems.

Common Vaccine MYTHS

MYTH	FACT
Vaccines cause autism	Vaccines DO NOT cause autism. Many well-designed, large-scale studies have confirmed there is no link between vaccines and autism.
Getting too many vaccines can overwhelm the immune system	Vaccines contain a tiny fraction of the antigens (proteins) that babies and children encounter every day in their environment. There is NO evidence that receiving several vaccines at one time will overwhelm a healthy child's immune system.
Vaccines contain harmful ingredients	Vaccines contain ingredients that allow the product to be safely given. These ingredients are present at doses lower than we are naturally exposed to in our daily life. Large-scale studies have shown there is no link between vaccines and bad neurodevelopmental outcomes.

Your child's doctor is a reliable source for health information. Reach out to them to learn more about safeguarding your child from diseases that vaccines can prevent.