

# Don't wait to vaccinate! Get your child immunized today!



## What is a vaccine?

A vaccine is a shot that helps protect people against some diseases. Vaccines are also known as “immunizations.” It is extremely important that children are immunized to stay healthy.

## What diseases do childhood vaccines prevent?

- Measles
- Whooping cough
- Tetanus
- Mumps
- Hepatitis
- Polio
- Diphtheria
- Chicken pox

## When does my child need shots?

Starting at birth, at almost every well-child visit, children should receive a shot to keep them healthy as they grow.

## If my child is running a fever, can he or she still get immunized?

Your child's primary care physician (PCP) is the best person to determine the right time to immunize.

## I don't want to hurt my baby with shots. What can I do?

First, it's good to stay calm. Your baby can pick up feelings from your expressions and body language. It's also good to be supportive. Talk soothingly and touch your baby when a shot is given. Make eye contact with your baby and smile.

## I got chicken pox and I was fine. Why should my child receive the chicken pox vaccine?

If an immunized person gets chicken pox, the illness will be much milder than for someone who is not immunized. Adults are more likely to die from chicken pox and its complications. The chicken pox (varicella) vaccine protects children into adulthood.

## Who can I talk to if I have more questions?

- Talk to your child's PCP.
- Call the Personal Health Advisor line at **1-800-919-8807** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Call Customer Service at **1-866-231-1821**.

**Remember! State laws require that all children be immunized in order to be admitted to school.**



Choices for a Healthy Life

