

# Quality Spotlight 2026

## **Immunizations**

- Childhood Immunizations Status (CIS)
- Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA)
  - Suggestions/ Tools/ Resources

# CQ-VBR Measures

MY2026 Measurement Period; September 1, 2027 - August 31, 2028 VBR Period



Blue Cross  
Blue Shield  
Blue Care Network  
of Michigan

| Category                                    | Measure                                                        | Adult Practices            |                 | Family Practices           |                 | Pediatric Practices        |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
|                                             |                                                                | CQ VBR and PCMH Commercial | CQ VBR Medicare | CQ VBR and PCMH Commercial | CQ VBR Medicare | CQ VBR and PCMH Commercial |
| Adult Prevention and Screening Measures     | Adult Immunization Status - Influenza                          | √                          |                 | √                          |                 |                            |
|                                             | Breast Cancer Screening                                        | √                          | √               | √                          | √               |                            |
|                                             | Cervical Cancer Screening                                      | √                          |                 | √                          |                 |                            |
|                                             | Chlamydia Screening in Women                                   | √                          |                 | √                          |                 |                            |
|                                             | Colorectal Cancer Screening                                    | √                          | √               | √                          | √               |                            |
| Pediatric Prevention and Screening Measures | Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits                          |                            |                 | √                          |                 | √                          |
|                                             | Childhood Immunization Status - Combo 10                       |                            |                 | √                          |                 | √                          |
|                                             | Childhood Immunization Status - Flu                            |                            |                 | √                          |                 | √                          |
|                                             | Immunizations for Adolescents - Combo 2                        |                            |                 | √                          |                 | √                          |
|                                             | Immunizations for Adolescents - HPV                            |                            |                 | √                          |                 | √                          |
|                                             | Weight Assessment and Counseling for Children - BMI percentile |                            |                 | √                          |                 | √                          |
|                                             | Well-Child Visits First 15 months                              |                            |                 | √                          |                 | √                          |
|                                             | Well-Child Visits - Well Visits 15 - 30 months                 |                            |                 | √                          |                 | √                          |

# Childhood Immunization Status (CIS) – Combo 10

90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Goal: 57.58%

Children who turned 2 during the measurement year that had the following vaccines (combo 10) by their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

Children need to have Combo 10 vaccinations by their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday – ***Even 1 day past their birthdate will fail the measure.***

Exclusions:

- Children who had a contraindication to a childhood vaccine on or before their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday (**Document it!**)
- Received hospice services
- Deceased during measurement year

| Vaccine     |                                          | Doses | Combo vaccine or antigen* | History of illness | Anaphylaxis r/t vaccine | Encephalitis r/t vaccine |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>DTaP</b> | Diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis | 4     | X                         |                    | X                       | X                        |
| <b>IPV</b>  | Polio                                    | 3     | X                         |                    | X                       |                          |
| <b>MMR</b>  | Measles, mumps, rubella                  | 1     | X                         | X                  | X                       |                          |
| <b>HiB</b>  | Hemophilus influenza B                   | 3     | X                         |                    | X                       |                          |
| <b>HepB</b> | Hepatitis B                              | 3     | X                         | X                  | X                       |                          |
| <b>VZV</b>  | Chicken pox (Varicella zoster)           | 1     | X                         | X                  | X                       |                          |
| <b>PCV</b>  | Pneumococcal conjugate                   | 4     | X                         |                    | X                       |                          |
| <b>HepA</b> | Hepatitis A                              | 1     | X                         | X                  | X                       |                          |
| <b>RV</b>   | Rotavirus                                | 2-3   | X                         |                    | X                       |                          |
| <b>Flu</b>  | Influenza                                | 2     | X                         |                    | X                       |                          |

**Note:** Combination vaccines must have evidence of all antigens.

# Tips for Coding

| Vaccine                | CPT** codes                                                                                      | ICD-10-CM                                                                                                                     | HCPCS codes |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| DTaP                   | 90697, 90698, 90700, 90723                                                                       |                                                                                                                               |             |
| IPV                    | 90697, 90698, 90713, 90723                                                                       |                                                                                                                               |             |
| Hepatitis B            | 90697, 90723, 90740, 90744, 90747, 90748                                                         | B16.0-B16.2, B16.9, B17.0, B18.0, B18.1, B19.10, B19.11                                                                       | G0010       |
| Hepatitis A            | 90633                                                                                            | B15.0, B15.9                                                                                                                  |             |
| MMR                    | 90707, 90710                                                                                     |                                                                                                                               |             |
| Measles                |                                                                                                  | B05.0-B05.4, B05.81, B05.89, B05.9                                                                                            |             |
| Mumps                  |                                                                                                  | B26.0 – B26.3, B26.81-B26.85, B26.89, B26.9                                                                                   |             |
| Rubella                |                                                                                                  | B06.00-B06.02, B06.09, B06.81, B06.82, B06.89, B06.9                                                                          |             |
| Influenza              | 90655, 90656, 90657, 90658, 90660, 90661, 90672, 90674, 90685, 90686, 90687, 90688, 90689, 90756 |                                                                                                                               |             |
| HIB                    | 90644, 90647, 90648, 90697, 90698, 90748                                                         |                                                                                                                               |             |
| Rotavirus              | 90680 (3 dose) 90681 (2 dose)                                                                    |                                                                                                                               |             |
| VZV                    | 90710, 90716                                                                                     | B01.0, B01.11, B01.12, B01.2, B01.81, B01.89, B01.9, B02.0, B02.1, B02.21-B02.24, B02.29- B02.34, B02.39, B02.7, B02.8, B02.9 |             |
| Pneumococcal conjugate | 90670, 90671, 90677                                                                              |                                                                                                                               | G0009       |

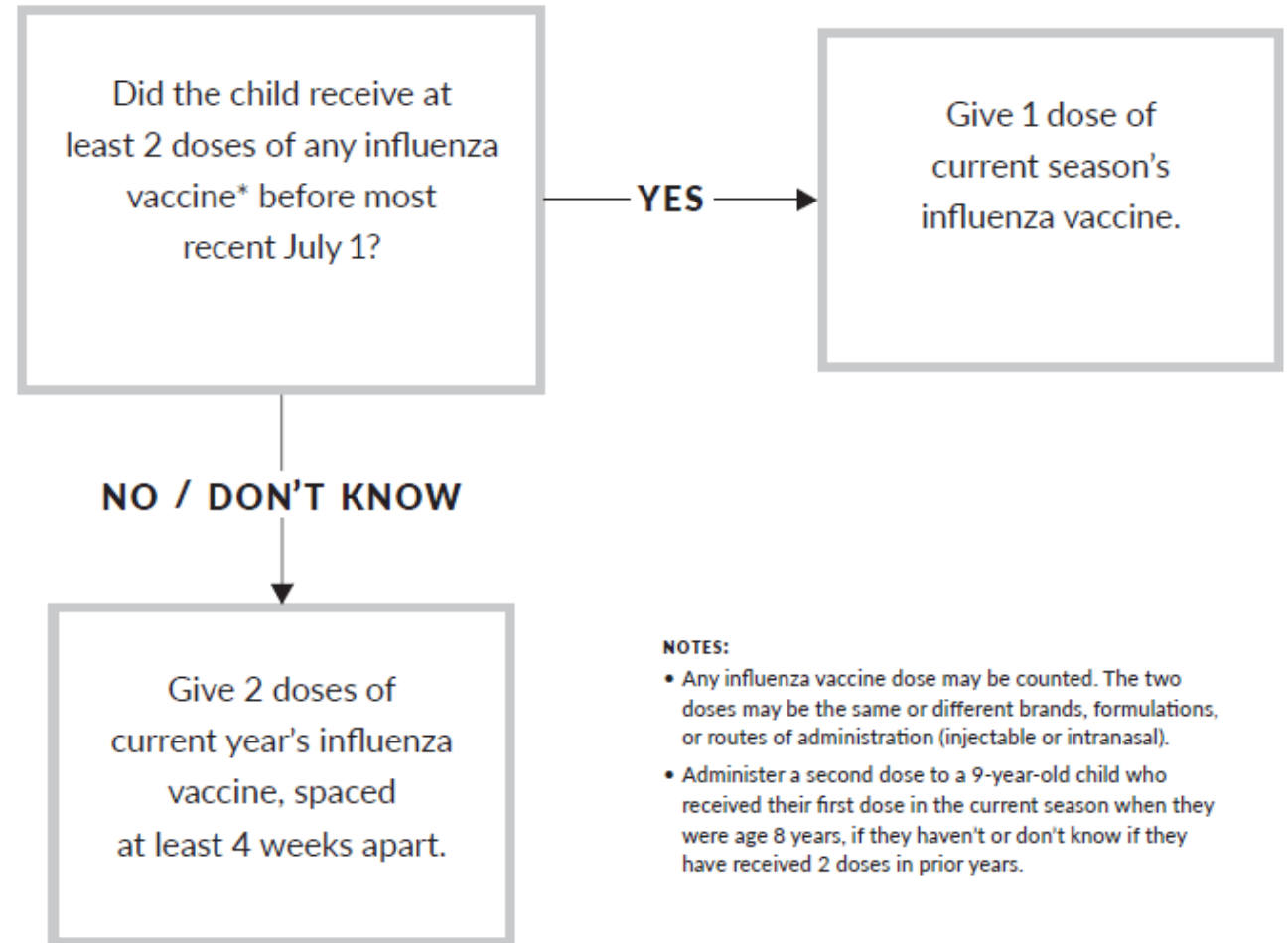
\*Please note they have removed 90673 and added 90656 and 90658\*

# Childhood Immunization Status – FLU (0-2 years)

90<sup>th</sup> percentile goal:  
68.17%

\*CDC recommends yearly  
for ages 2-18

## Guide for Determining the Number of Doses of Influenza Vaccine to Give to Children Age 6 Months Through 8 Years



\* The two doses need not have been received during the same season or consecutive seasons.

# Influenza Vaccine Products for the 2025–2026 Influenza Season

| Manufacturer | Trade Name<br>(vaccine abbreviation) <sup>1</sup> | How Supplied                          | Mercury<br>Content<br>(mcg Hg/0.5mL) | Age Range                        | CVX<br>Code | Vaccine Product<br>Billing Code <sup>2</sup> |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|
|              |                                                   |                                       |                                      |                                  |             | CPT                                          |
| AstraZeneca  | FluMist (LAIV3)                                   | 0.2 mL (single-use nasal spray)       | 0                                    | 2 through 49 years               | 111         | 90660                                        |
|              |                                                   |                                       |                                      |                                  | 333*        | NA*                                          |
| GSK          | Fluarix (IIV3)                                    | 0.5 mL (single-dose syringe)          | 0                                    | 6 months & older <sup>3</sup>    | 140         | 90656                                        |
|              | FluLaval (IIV3)                                   | 0.5 mL (single-dose syringe)          | 0                                    | 6 months & older <sup>3</sup>    | 140         | 90656                                        |
| Sanofi       | Flublok (RIV3)                                    | 0.5 mL (single-dose syringe)          | 0                                    | 9 years & older                  | 155         | 90673                                        |
|              | Fluzone (IIV3)                                    | 0.5 mL (single-dose syringe)          | 0                                    | 6 months & older <sup>3</sup>    | 140         | 90656                                        |
|              |                                                   | 0.5 mL (single-dose vial)             | 0                                    | 6 months & older <sup>3</sup>    | 140         | 90656                                        |
|              |                                                   | 5.0 mL multi-dose vial (0.25 mL dose) | 25 <sup>4</sup>                      | 6 through 35 months <sup>3</sup> | 141         | 90657                                        |
|              |                                                   | 5.0 mL multi-dose vial (0.5 mL dose)  | 25 <sup>4</sup>                      | 6 months & older                 | 141         | 90658                                        |
|              | Fluzone High-Dose (HD-IIV3)                       | 0.5 mL (single-dose syringe)          | 0                                    | 65 years & older <sup>5</sup>    | 135         | 90662                                        |
| CSL Seqirus  | Afluria (IIV3)                                    | 5.0 mL multi-dose vial (0.25 mL dose) | 24.5 <sup>4</sup>                    | 6 through 35 months <sup>3</sup> | 141         | 90657                                        |
|              |                                                   | 5.0 mL multi-dose vial (0.5 mL dose)  | 24.5 <sup>4</sup>                    | 3 years & older <sup>6</sup>     | 141         | 90658                                        |
|              |                                                   | 0.5 mL (single-dose syringe)          | 0                                    | 3 years & older <sup>3</sup>     | 140         | 90656                                        |
|              | Fluad (aIIV3)                                     | 0.5 mL (single-dose syringe)          | 0                                    | 65 years & older <sup>5</sup>    | 168         | 90653                                        |
|              | Flucelvax (ccIIV3)                                | 0.5 mL (single-dose syringe)          | 0                                    | 6 months & older <sup>3</sup>    | 153         | 90661                                        |
|              |                                                   | 5.0 mL multi-dose vial (0.5 mL dose)  | 25 <sup>4</sup>                      | 6 months & older <sup>3</sup>    | 320         | 90661                                        |

# Facts to Share with Parents of Young Children/ Infants

Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine every season with rare exceptions

Children younger than 5 years old, **especially those younger than 2,** are at higher risk of developing serious flu-related complications

Flu illness is more dangerous than the common cold for children.

Each year, millions of children get sick with seasonal flu; thousands of children are hospitalized, and some children die from the flu

Complications from flu among children under age 5 include:

Pneumonia

Dehydration

Worsening of long-term medical problems (i.e. asthma and heart disease)

Encephalopathy

Sinus problems and ear infections

In rare cases, death

**Vaccination is the best protection against flu**

# Evidence-based communications strategies to increase uptake of childhood vaccines

Pediatricians play an influential role in parental vaccine decision-making

Use a strong vaccine recommendation and presumptive format for initiating vaccine discussion

For parents who express hesitancy, use additional evidence-based communication strategies, such as motivational interviewing (MI)

Emphasize personal experience with vaccine-preventable diseases and the fact that they and their families are vaccinated because of their confidence in the safety and efficacy of the vaccines

# Share Your Own Personal Experience with Vaccination

Or use the experience of others.

- Alana's Foundation [Home | influenza resources education | Alana's Foundation \(alanasfoundation.org\)](https://alanasfoundation.org)
- The Franny Strong Foundation [Home - Franny Strong Foundation](https://frannystrongfoundation.org)
- Families fighting flu, Inc. [Family Stories About the Effects of Influenza \(familiesfightingflu.org\)](https://familiesfightingflu.org)
- Texas Children's Hospital [The Center for Vaccine Awareness and Research at Texas Children's Hospital \(tchorderprocessing.com\)](https://tchorderprocessing.com)

\*Share your experience and other colleagues experiences: Primary care and pediatric clinics care for thousands of patients year over year without vaccine complications



## What's included in the toolkit?

- BCBSM developed a **new toolkit** to **address the upcoming flu season** and promote vaccination
- **This toolkit includes:**
  - **5 key educational messages and downloadable images** to help bring vaccination awareness during the flu season
  - **Flu shot guidelines** to inform your providers on the latest recommendations

# Immunizations for Adolescents (IMA) – Combo 2

90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Goal  
44.17%

Percentage of adolescents who had:

- 1 dose of meningococcal vaccine,
- 1 dose tetanus diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine,
- Completed the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine series **by their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday**
  - Ages 9-13
  - Measurement year is considered the year the patient turns 13
  - Claims based measure

Preteens need to be on a schedule for vaccinations that ensures all doses are completed before the 13<sup>th</sup> birthday – even 1 day past the birthdate fails the measure

| Vaccine       | Age (on or between)     | Dose          | Anaphylaxis† (on or before) | Encephalitis† (on or before) |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Meningococcal | 10th and 13th birthdays | 1             | 13th birthday               |                              |
| Tdap          | 10th and 13th birthdays | 1             | 13th birthday               | 13th birthday                |
| HPV           | 9th and 13th birthdays  | 2 or 3 doses* | 13th birthday               |                              |

† Due to specified vaccine.

\*2 dose series must be given at least 146 days apart.

**Note:** Must have dated evidence of the antigen, vaccine administration, or anaphylaxis in the medical record.

## Codes to identify adolescent immunizations

| Vaccine               | CPT** codes                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Meningococcal vaccine | 90619, 90623, 90624, 90733, 90734 |
| Tdap                  | 90715                             |
| HPV                   | 90649, 90650, 90651               |

# 5 Key Steps to Improve HPV Vaccination Rates



## LEARN

HPV vaccination helps prevent certain cancers



## INFORM

Ensure staff delivers accurate and consistent HPV vaccination messages



## COMMUNICATE

Share benefits of HPV vaccination with patients at every opportunity



## RECOMMEND

Offer HPV along with other routine vaccines (same way, same day)



## VACCINATE

Develop routine procedures to reduce missed opportunities

HPV Vaccination = Cancer Prevention

## Immunizations for Adolescents HPV

90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Goal:  
45.95%

# General Suggestions Related to All Vaccines



Use your standing orders:

What can staff do without patient seeing physician or APP?



Combo Vaccines



Always schedule the next visit for immunizations at the current visit.



Immunizations are date sensitive – can't wait for the sports physical or the school break

# Proactive, Flexible Scheduling is Impactful

- **Take action to prevent missed opportunities** by routinely using lists of patients that have upcoming appointments. Screening patients for vaccination eligibility at each visit regardless of the type of visit (e.g., sick visit, well-child, sports physicals, etc.)
- **Use effective scheduling protocol** by scheduling the next appointment (e.g., well-child visit, nurse-only, etc.) before the patient leaves the office, either in the exam room or at check-out; scheduling the next vaccination visit and the next well-child visit to occur the same day whenever possible; offering various types of appointments (e.g., nurse-only appointments, vaccination-only clinic days, etc.) where vaccinations can occur.
- **Making vaccinations more accessible** by expanding practice hours, allowing walk-in vaccination appointments
- **Inform parents of future vaccine dates** by giving parents the immunization record and a list of future recommended vaccines with precise due dates.
- **Track no-shows and canceled appointments** and contact those patients within the same week to reschedule.

**Implement reminder and recall systems** using multiple methods (e.g., text messages, portal messages, e-mails, postcards, phone calls, etc.)

- Texting proved 32.1% successful at bringing patients up-to-date with their vaccines compared to a 27% success rate from postcards and 20.8% via emails.
- Data also shows that using multiple touchpoints yields greater results than any single approach alone, while **permanent forms like texts/postcards tend to be favored by patients** due to ease of knowledge retention.
- Combining postcard reminders with text messages is the best way to maximize read rates and increase vaccination uptake. By simply **sending out reminders within seven to ten days of one another** in either option 1 (postcard followed by follow-up texts) or 2 (a postcard and two-part message set).

# The Successful Implementation of Vaccine Strategies May Include:

- Include vaccine-related material (e.g., practice vaccination policy, ACIP immunization schedule, educational items, etc.) in new patient information packets.
- Direct questions to the **appropriate staff should the parent have questions or concerns.**
- Direct hesitant parents to **sources of accurate, reliable vaccination information.**
- Incorporate and routinely refresh **vaccine-related content on the practice's website.**
- Plan and **implement vaccine-positive posts on the practice's social media accounts.**
- Identify how **everyone can play a part in supporting vaccination throughout the practice** and review these steps during staff meetings and/or adding to staff training curriculum. **Refrain from including personal opinions/bias in the parent discussions**
- **Create** and monitor a **feedback mechanism for staff members to ask questions or receive guidance on vaccines.**

**\*Parents consider their child's health care professionals to be their most trusted source of information when it comes to vaccines.** This is true even for parents who are vaccine-hesitant or who have considered delaying one or more vaccines.

# APPENDIX

The following slide are tools that were included in previous presentations but have been updated where applicable.

Please review and utilize tools at your discretion

The background of the slide is a dark, textured surface covered with numerous question marks of varying sizes and colors, including shades of gold, yellow, and dark blue. A single, large, bright white question mark is positioned on the left side of the slide, slightly above the center.

## Childhood Immunizations Immunizations for Adolescents

Questions?

# Tools: Immunize.org

**Immunize.org**

Search Immunize.org

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[Vaccines & VISs](#) [Clinical Resources](#) [Ask the Experts](#) [Official Guidance](#) [News & Updates](#) [About](#)

**Clinical Resources A-Z**

Our comprehensive set of printable resources is designed to help healthcare professionals in all aspects of immunization practice. Search by topic or filter by audience, vaccine, disease, patient age, health condition, and more.

**Vaccine Confidence & Addressing Concerns**

Practical resources to help providers respond to patient hesitancy and specific concerns

**Image Library**

Photos related to vaccine-preventable diseases you can use to educate about the importance of vaccination

**External Resources**

Valuable contact information and resources curated for immunization providers

|                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Vaccine Confidence Overview          | MMR Vaccine                |
| Addressing Vaccination Anxiety       | Religious Concerns         |
| Adjuvants                            | Responding to Parents      |
| Alternative Medicine                 | Thimerosal                 |
| Alternative Schedules                | Unprotected People Stories |
| Autism                               | Vaccine Hesitancy          |
| Importance of Vaccines               | Vaccine Safety             |
| Improving the Vaccination Experience |                            |

## Addressing Vaccination Anxiety for Children

### Strategies for Healthcare Professionals



Fear of needles and vaccine visits is common in older children. What you do and say can help children experience less pain and help parents and children more readily accept recommended vaccinations. Below are strategies that can improve the vaccination experience, especially when combined. Consider what is practical. Simply acknowledging the feelings of both child and caregiver and letting them know you care can help.

#### Before the Visit

**Registration** may minimize time in the waiting room where anxiety can mount.

**Establish expectations.** If possible, let families know what will be offered any needed vaccinations and that you'll talk with them to make the experience comfortable.

**Ask the caregiver bring a favorite comfort item or let them bring an item** from home (e.g., spinner, game).

#### During the Visit

**Ask the caregiver and child** how the child handles vaccinations.<sup>2</sup> What helps them cope? If needed, remind the caregiver that their calm and supportive attitude will help the child feel more secure.

**Ask the caregiver and child, as appropriate, to ask questions** so they feel prepared.

**Choose your words!** Use words that help the child cope with vaccination. Using fear-provoking words (e.g., "sting" or "hurt") or false reassurances ("It won't hurt a bit") can increase a child's distress and pain.<sup>3</sup>

**Set up the vaccination room/area** so it's comfortable and private. Keep needles out of sight until necessary.

**Consider topical analgesia** (e.g., 5% lidocaine cream, spray, or patch). This may help with pain but needs to be applied to the vaccination site 30 to 60 minutes ahead of time. With guidance, some families may accomplish this before arriving.<sup>1</sup>

**Offer suggestions** of coping strategies, if needed. Slow deep breaths before, during, and after vaccination can be calming. Some children want to see the vaccination, but most children like to be distracted. Encourage those children to talk about something else pleasant or play with a mobile device. Displaying fun posters in the vaccination area can provide distraction, too.<sup>4</sup>

**KEY IDEA:** Asking parents and children what helps them cope is essential. Support their choices, when feasible.

# Clear Answers and Smart Advice About Your Baby's Shots

By Ari Brown, MD, FAAP



Dr. Brown received her medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas; she did her pediatric residency at Harvard Medical School (Boston Children's Hospital). In private practice since 1993, Dr. Brown is perhaps best known as the coauthor of the #1 parenting book series - *Expecting 411: Clear Answers and Smart Advice for Your Pregnancy, Baby 411, and Toddler 411* (Wiley-Paig Press).

In response to the recent media attention given to vaccines, autism, and other controversies concerning vaccines, the Immunize.org offers this special excerpt from *Baby 411* that answers these questions and more. Immunize.org thanks Dr. Brown for this clearly written information, but mostly we are grateful for her continued advocacy for safe and effective vaccines.

Since there is so much misinformation and disinformation out there on vaccines, you need to be armed with detailed, accurate information. The information we provide is based on scientific evidence and cold peer-reviewed research. Remember our mantra: show us the science! Your child is too precious to make such important decisions on anything less. This chapter is not based on personal anecdotes, conspiracy theories, "research" study participants recruited at a children's birthday party (we are not kidding), or provocative pseudoscience.

However, before we get to our take on this debate, let's go back in time a bit. Well, more than a bit. How did the human race survive when other early humans didn't? Yes, making tools and efficiently finding food played a big role.

But here's another key element: we built civilizations. And we developed a vaccine.

I think we all respect life. Enduring a complete virus should have made folks still have concerns.

We would like to point out originally written in 2004-11, because it is still so relevant.

Here's a crucial point: the children who get sick of folks just choose to be. Germ is a rather simple infection. They don't play it safe.

## Non-Medical Exemptions and Vaccine Refusal Put People at Risk. Examine the Evidence for Yourself.

Enforcement of immunization requirements for children entering childcare facilities and schools has resulted in sustained, high immunization coverage levels. While all states and the District of Columbia allow exemptions from requirements for medical reasons, as of June 5, 2024, all but six offer exemptions to accommodate religious beliefs, exemptions

coverage levels are lower when non-medical exemptions to requirements are available, especially if they are easy to get. Outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, such as measles, pertussis, and varicella, have been traced to pockets of unvaccinated children. Examine for yourself the evidence for the consequences of allowing immunization coverage levels to fall.

## Record of Vaccine Declination

The pandemic shows us how we take care of our community to grow vaccinated. Consider a bit of what eight children in the childhood. Just go listed on the heads: children are now p have increased the why our grandparents

### Our

Full disclosure: The previously title "Our friends, just predict" fact forward to the in a matter of week worldwide thus far go home regional a COVID-19, like me vaccine, there is still scientific advice



- I understand that vaccine-preventable diseases can infect unvaccinated U.S. children and can result in hospitalization and even death.
- I understand that vaccine-preventable infections that are no longer common in the U.S. still occur around the world. An unvaccinated child can be infected while traveling, or through direct or indirect contact with a traveler.
- I understand that my unvaccinated child could spread disease to another child who is too young to be vaccinated or to a person whose medical condition, such as cancer, or immune system problems, prevents them from being vaccinated. This could result in health complications and even death for the other person.
- I understand that if too many parents exempted their child from vaccination, these diseases would return to our community in full force.
- I understand that my unvaccinated child may not be protected by "herd" or "community" immunity (i.e., protection that is the result of having most people in a population vaccinated against a disease).
- I understand that some vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles and pertussis are extremely infectious and have been known to infect unvaccinated people living in highly vaccinated populations.

| Vaccine / Disease                   | Yes given (Y) | Vaccine recommended by doctor or nurse (On vaccine card) | I decline this vaccine for my child (List all reasons on separate sheet) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COVID-19                            |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTaP) |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Hepatitis A (HepA)                  |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Hepatitis B (HepB)                  |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Human papillomavirus (HPV)          |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Influenza                           |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Measles-mumps-rubella (MMR)         |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY)        |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Meningococcal B (MenB)              |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV)        |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Polio, inactivated (IPV)            |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| RVZ (prevalence antibody (RVZ-mAb)  |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Rotavirus (RV)                      |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Tetanus-diphtheria (Td)             |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) |               |                                                          |                                                                          |
| Varicella (Var)                     |               |                                                          |                                                                          |

After discussion with my provider who recommends these vaccines, I acknowledge that I am declining to have my child vaccinated against one or more diseases listed above. I have placed my initials in the table above to indicate the vaccine(s) I am declining. I understand that I can change my decision in the future and have my child vaccinated.

CHILD'S NAME

DATE OF BIRTH

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

DOCTOR/NURSE SIGNATURE

DATE

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4059.pdf

Item #P-059 (7/5/2024)



IUC www.vaccineinformation.org

www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4059.pdf

Item #P-059 (6/11/2024)



Scan for PDF

# MMR Vaccine Does Not Cause Autism

## Examine the evidence!

Scientific evidence confirms that MMR and autism are unrelated. The question about a possible link between MMR vaccine and autism has been extensively reviewed by independent groups of experts in the United States, including the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine (now named the National Academy of Medicine). These reviews have concluded that the epidemiologic shows that MMR vaccine does not cause autism.

about the safety of MMR vaccine arose in 1998 after a physician (a gastroenterologist, not trained in vaccine or neurology) claimed he had found virus from measles lingering in the intestines of 12 autistic children. He this accounted for their autism.

researchers, however, were never able to replicate these implying the gastroenterologist's conclusions were wrong. Investigation revealed that this doctor had falsified data and relied on laboratory reports that he had been were incorrect. The journal that originally published his sk the unusual step of retracting it from the scientific because it was the product of dishonesty and irresponsible. British authorities revoked the doctor's licence to medicine.

**ACTED:** *Heal-Lymphoid-Nodular Hyperplasia, specific Colitis, and Persistent Developmental Disorder* (Lancet 2010; 375(9633):637-41). The 12 children with chronic enterocolitis aggressive developmental disorder. **statement by the Editors of the Lancet,** Lancet 2010; 375(9633):637-41. The editors fully retract this paper the published record: www.thelancet.com/journals/article/PIIS014067369710960/fulltext

wing list of articles published in peer-reviewed journals so that parents and practitioners can themselves the balance of evidence about MMR vaccine and autism.

## immunize.org

FOR PROFESSIONALS www.immunize.org / FOR THE PUBLIC www.vaccineinformation.org

More than 25 articles refute a connection between MMR vaccine and the development of autism

- Measles, Mumps, Rubella Vaccination and Autism - A Nationwide Cohort Study. Mulla A et al. *Ann Intern Med* 2019; 170(8):513-520. This nationwide cohort study included all 657,481 children born 1/1999-12/2010 in Denmark. With this many study participants, the researchers were able to look at vaccinated vs not vaccinated children, including 6,517 children with a diagnosis of autism.

CONCLUSION: The findings strongly support that MMR vaccination

## Need Help Responding to Vaccine-Hesitant Parents? Science-based materials are available from these respected organizations

### American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

- AAP's website to help parents and caregivers who have vaccination questions (see [www.healthychildren.org/english/safety-prevention/immunizations/pages/default.aspx](http://www.healthychildren.org/english/safety-prevention/immunizations/pages/default.aspx))
- When parents cannot be convinced, consider using AAP's "Refusal to Vaccinate" form at <https://downloads.aap.org/aap/patient-care/immunizations/immunization-administration-in-your-practice/refusal-to-vaccinate/>
- "Talking with Vaccine-Hesitant Parents" (see [www.aap.org/en/patient-care/immunizations/communicating-with-families-and-promoting-vaccine-confidence/talking-with-vaccine-hesitant-parents/](https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/immunizations/communicating-with-families-and-promoting-vaccine-confidence/talking-with-vaccine-hesitant-parents/))

### California Department of Public Health

- The Immunization Branch of the California Department of Public Health has developed several excellent provider pieces that discuss common vaccination questions from parents. These include
- Vaccine Safety "Answers to Parents' Top Questions" at <https://ezic.org/resources/parents/answers-to-parents-top-questions/>

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC has many online immunization resources. Here are a few favorites
- "Childhood Vaccination Resources for Healthcare Providers" at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/childhood-vaccination-toolkit.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/childhood-vaccination-toolkit.html)
- "Talking to Parents About Vaccines" at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/conversation-tips/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/conversation-tips/index.html)
- "Questions Parents May Ask about Vaccines" at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/conversation-tips/questions-parents-may-ask.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/conversation-tips/questions-parents-may-ask.html)

### Immunize.org

- Immunize.org's "Vaccine Confidence & Addressing Concerns" web section provides healthcare professionals with top vaccination resources from trusted sources such as CDC, AAP, Immunize.org, VEC, and many more. Visit [www.immunize.org/clinical/vaccine-confidence/](http://www.immunize.org/clinical/vaccine-confidence/)
- Refer parents to Immunize.org's website for the public at [www.vaccineinformation.org](http://www.vaccineinformation.org)
- Immunize.org offers several patient handouts for vaccine-hesitant parents. These include:
  - "Clear Answers and Smart Advice About Your Baby's Shots," an excerpt from the popular book "Baby 411" by Dr. Ari Brown (see [www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2068.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2068.pdf))
  - "Record of Vaccine Declination" (see [www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4059.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4059.pdf)) Also available in Spanish at [www.immunize.org/wp-content/uploads/catg.d/p4059-spa.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/wp-content/uploads/catg.d/p4059-spa.pdf)

- "Reliable Sources of Immunization Information: Where Parents Can Go to Find Answers" at [www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4012.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4012.pdf)
- "Vaccine Work!" at [www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4037.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4037.pdf)

### Institute for Vaccine Safety, Johns Hopkins University

The Institute for Vaccine Safety (see [www.vaccinesafety.edu](http://www.vaccinesafety.edu)) summarizes vaccine-specific safety information. Of particular interest is its "Components of Vaccines" section, which contains tables specifying the contents of various vaccines (see [www.vaccinesafety.edu/components](http://www.vaccinesafety.edu/components)).

### Vaccinate Your Family

Vaccinate Your Family (see [www.vaccinateyourfamily.org](http://www.vaccinateyourfamily.org)) answers commonly asked questions about vaccines. This website is family-friendly and has many resources in Spanish.

### Vaccine Education Center (VEC) Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

VEC (see [www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center](http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center)) offers a wide array of science-based resources. See a useful list of VEC resources at [www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/resources](http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/resources)

VEC's "Vaccine Safety" web page covers many timely topics (see [www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/vaccine-safety](http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/vaccine-safety)) and includes downloadable materials on important safety issues, such as "Are Vaccines Safe?" "Vaccine Ingredients," "Dosing Safety," "Immune System and Health," and more.

Find videos and DVDs at [www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/resources/vaccine-videos-and-dvds](http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/resources/vaccine-videos-and-dvds)

### For parents with concerns about vaccines and autism

- There is clear and definitive evidence that vaccines do not cause autism. Here are some useful resources.
- AAP [https://publications.aap.org/international/article-abstract/doi/10.1542/pediatrics.129\(5\)/e2014/vaccine-autism-toolkit](https://publications.aap.org/international/article-abstract/doi/10.1542/pediatrics.129(5)/e2014/vaccine-autism-toolkit)
- Autism Science Foundation "Autism and Vaccines" at <http://autismsciencefoundation.org/autism-and-vaccines> and "Autism and Vaccines: Read the Science" at <http://autismsciencefoundation.org/autism-and-vaccines-read-the-science>
- Autism Society "COVID-19: Vaccine Education Initiative" at <https://autismsociety.org/resources/covid-19-support>
- Autism's Paleo Prophets: Real Science, Baby Medicine, and the Search for a Cure, by Paul A. Offit, MD, at your local bookstore
- CDC: Autism and Vaccines at [www.cdc.gov/vaccine-safety/about-autism.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccine-safety/about-autism.html)
- CDC: "Preparing for Questions Parents May Ask about Vaccines" at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/conversations/downloads/preparing-questions.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/conversations/downloads/preparing-questions.pdf)
- Immunize.org: "MMR Vaccine Does Not Cause Autism: Examine the Evidence" at [www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4024.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4024.pdf)
- VEC: "Vaccines and Autism: What you should know" <https://media.chop.edu/data/files/pdf/vaccine-education-center-autism.pdf>



FOR PROFESSIONALS www.immunize.org / FOR THE PUBLIC www.vaccineinformation.org

www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4070.pdf

Item #P-070 (11/4/2024)



Scan for PDF



FOR PROFESSIONALS www.immunize.org / FOR THE PUBLIC www.vaccineinformation.org

# Resource Tools – Schedules

## WELL CHILD VISIT AND IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE THROUGH ADOLESCENCE

**Birth** – Hepatitis B vaccine before hospital discharge

**2 Weeks** – Well Visit

**2 Months** – Pediarix (DTaP, IPV, Hep B), rotavirus, Hib, Prevnar

**4 Months** – Pediarix (DTaP, IPV, Hep B), rotavirus, Hib, Prevnar

**6 Months** – Pediarix (DTaP, IPV, Hep B), rotavirus, Prevnar

**9 Months** – Well Visit

**12 Months** – MMR, Varicella, Hepatitis A

**14 Months** – DTaP, Hib, Prevnar

**18 Months** – Hepatitis A

**2 year** – Well Visit

**2 ½ year** – Well Visit

**3 year** – Well Visit

**4 year** – MMR, Varicella, Kinrix (DTaP/IPV)

**5-10 years** – Annual Well Visit

**11 years** – Tdap, MCV4, HPV9 (second HPV9 6-12 mo later)

**12-15 years** – Annual Well Visit

**16 Years** – MCV4



Influenza vaccine  
is recommended during  
flu season for all patients  
6 months of age  
and older.

Patients with chronic  
conditions may require  
additional vaccines.

Sports physicals  
should be  
scheduled after  
April 15th.

# Tools:

## CDC Schedule

**Table 1** Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for Ages 18 Years or Younger, United States, 2025

These recommendations must be read with the notes that follow. For those who fall behind or start late, provide catch-up vaccination at the earliest opportunity as indicated by the green bars. To determine minimum intervals between doses, see the catch-up schedule (Table 2).

| Vaccine and other immunizing agents                      | Birth                                                           | 1 mo     | 2 mos     | 4 mos    | 6 mos                 | 9 mos                                   | 12 mos | 15 mos | 18 mos   | 19–23 mos | 2–3 yrs | 4–6 yrs         | 7–10 yrs                                             | 11–12 yrs | 13–15 yrs | 16 yrs    | 17–18 yrs |           |  |          |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|----------|--|
| Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV-mAb [Nirsevimab])       | 1 dose depending on maternal RSV vaccination status (See Notes) |          |           |          |                       | 1 dose (8 through 19 months). See Notes |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Hepatitis B (HepB)                                       | 1st dose                                                        | 2nd dose |           |          | 3rd dose              |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Rotavirus (RV): RV1 (2-dose series), RVS (3-dose series) |                                                                 |          | 1st dose  | 2nd dose | See Notes             |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis (DTaP <7 yrs)   |                                                                 |          | 1st dose  | 2nd dose | 3rd dose              | 4th dose                                |        |        | 5th dose |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)                      |                                                                 |          | 1st dose  | 2nd dose | See Notes             | 3rd or 4th dose (See Notes)             |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV15, PCV20)                    |                                                                 |          | 1st dose  | 2nd dose | 3rd dose              | 4th dose                                |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)                             |                                                                 |          | 1st dose  | 2nd dose | 3rd dose              |                                         |        |        |          | 4th dose  |         |                 |                                                      |           |           | See Notes |           |           |  |          |  |
| COVID-19 (1vCOV-mRNA, 1vCOV-aPS)                         |                                                                 |          |           |          | See Notes             |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           | See Notes |  |          |  |
| Influenza (IIV3, cIIV3)                                  |                                                                 |          |           |          | 1 or 2 doses annually |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 | 1 dose annually                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Influenza (LAIV3)                                        |                                                                 |          |           |          | 1 or 2 doses annually |                                         |        |        |          |           |         | 1 dose annually |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)                            |                                                                 |          |           |          | See Notes             | 1st dose                                |        |        |          | 2nd dose  |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Varicella (VAR)                                          |                                                                 |          |           |          | 1st dose              |                                         |        |        | 2nd dose |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Hepatitis A (HepA)                                       |                                                                 |          |           |          | See Notes             | 2-dose series (See Notes)               |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap ≥7 yrs)   |                                                                 |          |           |          |                       |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 | 1 dose                                               |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Human papillomavirus (HPV)                               |                                                                 |          |           |          |                       |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 | See Notes                                            |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Meningococcal (MenACWY-CRM ≥2 mos, MenACWY-TT ≥2 years)  |                                                                 |          | See Notes |          |                       |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           | 1st dose  |  | 2nd dose |  |
| Meningococcal B (MenB-4C, MenB-FHbp)                     |                                                                 |          |           |          |                       |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 | See Notes                                            |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine (RSV [Abrysvo])      |                                                                 |          |           |          |                       |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 | Seasonal administration during pregnancy (See Notes) |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Dengue (DEN4CYD: 9–16 yrs)                               |                                                                 |          |           |          |                       |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 | Seropositive in endemic dengue areas (See Notes)     |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |
| Mpox                                                     |                                                                 |          |           |          |                       |                                         |        |        |          |           |         |                 |                                                      |           |           |           |           |           |  |          |  |

Range of recommended ages for all children    Range of recommended ages for catch-up vaccination    Range of recommended ages for certain high-risk groups or populations    Recommended vaccination can begin in this age group    Vaccination is based on shared clinical decision-making    No Guidance/Not Applicable



### Download the App

Healthcare providers who recommend or administer vaccines can immediately access all CDC recommended immunization schedules and footnotes using the CDC Vaccine Schedules app.

**Note:** If you previously downloaded the app, check that you have version 11.1.0 with 2024 schedules and footnotes.



# Tools: National Foundation for Infection Diseases

## 10 Reasons to Get Vaccinated

**Reason #1**  
Vaccine-preventable diseases have not gone away



  [www.nfid.org/immunization](http://www.nfid.org/immunization)  
#GetVaccinated

**Reason #4**  
Vaccination can mean the difference between life and death



  [www.nfid.org/immunization](http://www.nfid.org/immunization)  
#GetVaccinated

**Reason #6**  
Vaccines can't give you the diseases they are designed to prevent



  [www.nfid.org/immunization](http://www.nfid.org/immunization)  
#GetVaccinated

**Reason #7**  
Young and healthy people can get very sick, too



  [www.nfid.org/immunization](http://www.nfid.org/immunization)  
#GetVaccinated

**Reason #9**  
When you get sick, your children, grandchildren, and parents may be at risk, too



  [www.nfid.org/immunization](http://www.nfid.org/immunization)  
#GetVaccinated

**Reason #10**  
Everyone deserves the chance to stay healthy



 [www.nfid.org/immunization](http://www.nfid.org/immunization)  
#GetVaccinated

# MDHHS Brochures

## Protect your child's health

Parents want to do everything possible to keep their child healthy and safe. Vaccination is the best way to protect against vaccine-preventable diseases.

Ask your child's health care provider if your child is up-to-date on vaccines. By getting your child vaccinated on time following the recommended schedule, you're helping protect him or her against 14 diseases in their first year of life!

## Vaccines are safe

Vaccination is safe and effective. All vaccines go through long and careful review by scientists, doctors, and the federal government to make sure they are safe.

## Preparing for vaccines

Young children can tell when their parents are nervous. Make sure you get your questions answered and that you stay calm at the visit.

It can help to bring your child's favorite toy or blanket for comfort. Hold your child firmly on your lap, and talk or sing to them to distract them.



## What to expect after vaccines

Talk to your child's health care provider about what to expect after vaccines.



**PROTECT  
PRE-TEENS  
AND TEENS  
FROM SERIOUS  
DISEASES**

[www.michigan.gov/teenvaccines](http://www.michigan.gov/teenvaccines)



## Paying for vaccines

Most insurance plans cover routine vaccinations without copays or deductibles.

If your child does not have health insurance or does not have insurance that covers vaccines, ask your child's health care provider or your local health department about the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. This program provides vaccines at no cost to eligible children aged 18 years and younger.

## Where to go for more information

- Your child's health care provider
- Your local health department
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services: [www.michigan.gov/immunize](http://www.michigan.gov/immunize)
- Alliance for Immunization in Michigan: [www.aimtoolkit.org](http://www.aimtoolkit.org)
- Vaccine Education Center: [www.chop.edu/vec](http://www.chop.edu/vec)
- Immunization Action Coalition: [www.vaccineinformation.org](http://www.vaccineinformation.org)
- Vaccinate Your Family: [www.vaccinateyourfamily.org](http://www.vaccinateyourfamily.org)
- I Vaccinate: [www.ivaccinate.org](http://www.ivaccinate.org)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
  - [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents)
  - English and Spanish
  - 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
  - TTY 1-888-232-6348

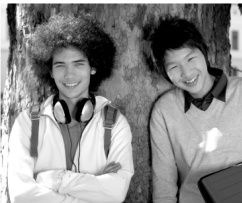


Credit for all images: Heather Hazzan, *SELF Magazine*.

Rev. 2/20

### MMR

- The MMR vaccine protects against three diseases: measles, mumps, and rubella. All school-age children and teens need two shots of MMR vaccine.
- Measles causes a high fever, cough, runny nose, sore eyes and rash. It can also infect the brain, or cause hearing loss or death.
- Mumps causes painful swelling under the jaw. Mumps can lead to mild swelling of the brain and spinal cord, and hearing loss.
- Rubella causes fever, painful swelling in the neck, a skin rash, and soreness or swelling in the joints. If a pregnant woman gets rubella, it may be harmful to her unborn baby. Babies born with rubella can have heart disease, be blind or deaf, or have learning problems.



### Polio

- Causes flu-like symptoms and can lead to paralysis and death
- Older children and teens need three doses of polio vaccine

### More Vaccines?

- Adolescents who have health problems or are traveling outside the United States may need other vaccines
- Check with your health care provider about other vaccines your child may need

### Your Child's Vaccination Record

You should have a record of your child's vaccines. Keep it and carry it with you to every health care visit. A great way to keep track of anyone's vaccine record is by using the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR). Ask if all your child's vaccines are in MCIR and make sure they have all needed vaccines.

### Paying for Vaccines

Check to see if your health insurance will pay for these vaccines. If your child does not have health insurance, or does not have insurance that covers these vaccines, ask your health care provider or local health department about the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program.

### Vaccines for Children (VFC) program

VFC provides no- or low-cost vaccines to eligible children 18 years of age and younger.

### Where to go for more information

- Your health care provider
- Your local health department
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services: [www.michigan.gov/teenvaccines](http://www.michigan.gov/teenvaccines)
- Vaccine Education Center: [www.chop.edu/vaccine](http://www.chop.edu/vaccine)
- Immunization Action Coalition: [www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)
  - o English and Spanish
  - o 800-CDC-INFO
  - o 800-232-4636
  - o TTY 1-888-232-6348



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**PROTECT BABIES  
AND TODDLERS  
FROM SERIOUS  
DISEASES**





TODAY CHILDREN RECEIVE  
TO PROTECT AGAIN

## 15 DIFFER DISEASE

with as many as 29 vaccine dose they are 2 years old. Many parents have concerns about too many vaccines their child's immune system. How separating or withholding vaccine your child unprotected against it. Continue reading to learn about vaccinating your

**Do children today encounter more components from vaccines than they did 30 years ago?**

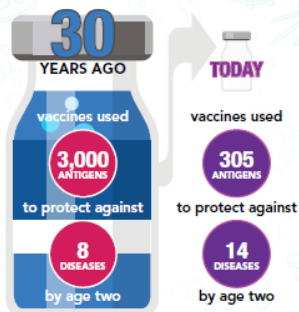
No. Thanks to scientific advances, today's vaccines can protect children from more diseases using fewer antigens.

**Can too many vaccines overwhelm a child's immune system?**

No. Your child is exposed to thousands of germs every day in their environment. In fact, a common cold or sore throat will put a greater burden on your child's immune system than vaccines.

INFANTS ARE COLONIZED WITH  
**TRILLIONS**  
OF BACTERIA, AND EACH BACTERIUM CONTAIN  
**2,000 TO 6,000**  
IMMUNOLOGICAL COMPONENTS, AND  
INFECTED WITH NUMEROUS VIRUSES.

To learn more about vaccinations visit the CDC's website [cdc.gov/vaccines/](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/),\* or the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services website [michigan.gov/immunize](https://www.michigan.gov/immunize)\* or speak with your child's healthcare provider.



**What is the harm in separating, spacing out or withholding vaccines?**

Children are given vaccines at a young age because this is when they are at highest risk of getting sick or dying if they get these diseases.



**I'm concerned about the ingredients in vaccines. Are they safe and necessary for my child?**

All of the ingredients in vaccine play a necessary roles in either making the vaccine, triggering the body to develop immunity, or in ensuring the final product is safe and effective. Some common ingredients include:

- **Adjuvants** help boost the body's response to vaccine. (Also found in antacids, buffered aspirin, antiperspirants, etc.)
- **Stabilizers** help keep vaccine effective after manufactured (resides in body naturally.)
- **Formaldehyde** is used to prevent contamination by bacteria during the vaccine manufacturing process. Resides in body naturally (more in body than vaccines). Also found in environment, preservatives, and household products.
- **Thimerosal** is used during the manufacturing process but is no longer an ingredient in any vaccine except multidose vials of the flu vaccine. Single dose flu vaccines are available as a thimerosal free alternative. No reputable scientific studies have found an association between thimerosal in vaccines and autism.



SEEK INFORMATION ON VACCINE INGREDIENTS FROM CREDIBLE SOURCES AND ADDRESS YOUR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS WITH YOUR DOCTOR OR PHARMACIST.

**Are vaccines still necessary?**

Although several of the diseases that vaccines prevent have been dramatically reduced or eliminated, vaccines are still necessary. It is always better to prevent a disease than to treat it after it occurs.



THE UNITED STATES HAD MORE THAN **1,200** CASES OF **MEASLES** IN **2019**. THIS WAS THE GREATEST NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED IN THE U.S. SINCE 1992 AND SINCE MEASLES WAS DECLARED ELIMINATED IN 2000.

**Does my child still need to get vaccines if I am breastfeeding?**

Yes. The types of immunity from breastfeeding and immunization are different. The antibodies made after immunization are from the babies own immune system and will remain in the form of immunologic memory otherwise known as active immunity. Antibodies from the breastmilk are from the maternal immune system and only provide short-term protection. The immunity generated from breast milk is called passive immunity.



# BCBSM Brochures

**How do I know that vaccines are safe?**

The CDC and FDA take many steps to make sure vaccines are very safe. Because vaccines are given to people who are not sick they are held to the highest standards of safety. As a result they are among the safest things we put in our body.

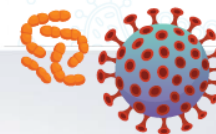
Like any medication, vaccines can cause side effects. In most cases side effects are mild, and go away in a few days. Severe, long lasting side effects from vaccines are rare.

**At what age will my child be fully vaccinated?**

Although most doses of vaccines will be completed by 2 years of age, we all need vaccines throughout our lives to help protect against diseases. Vaccines are recommended for children, teens, and adults based on different factors like age, health conditions, lifestyle, jobs, and travel.



For the most update vaccination schedules visit [cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/),\* or speak with your doctor or pharmacist.



**IF YOU CHOOSE NOT TO VACCINATE YOUR CHILD, UNDERSTAND THE RISKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**

With the decision to delay or reject vaccines comes an important responsibility that could save your child's life or the life of someone else.

- Anytime your child is ill and you call 911, ride in an ambulance, visit a hospital or emergency room, or visit your child's doctor or any clinic, you **MUST** tell the medical staff that your child has not received all the recommended vaccinations for their age.

Be aware **ANY** vaccine-preventable disease can strike at **ANY** time in the U.S. because all of these diseases still circulate either in the U.S. or elsewhere in the world.

World Immunization Week 2026

For every generation,  
**vaccines work**



Your decision makes a difference



# POSTERS

World Immunization Week 2026

For every generation,  
**vaccines work**



Your decision makes a difference



World Immunization Week 2026

For every generation,  
**vaccines work**



Your decision makes a difference

