



Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

These are the main infectious diseases for which vaccines are available. This flyer includes information about how the diseases are spread, some common symptoms, and health problems the diseases can cause.

Polio

- spread by direct contact with feces of infected person
- mild cases cause fever, sore throat, nausea, headaches, stomach aches; stiffness in neck, back and legs
- serious cases cause paralysis and death

Diphtheria

- easily spread by coughing, sneezing or close contact
- early symptoms are sore throat, slight fever, and chills
- can interfere with swallowing, cause suffocation, heart failure or paralysis

Tetanus (lockjaw)

- enters the body through a wound
- produces a poison which causes headache, irritability, stiffness in jaw and neck, muscle spasms in jaw, neck, arms, legs and abdomen
- 3 out of every 10 people who get tetanus die (U.S.)

Pertussis (whooping cough)

- easily spread by coughing, sneezing or close contact
- causes severe spells of coughing which can interfere with eating, drinking and breathing
- complications: pneumonia, convulsions and encephalitis
- most reported cases are in infants less than 7 months old

www.immunization-sd.org

Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib disease)

- spread by coughing, sneezing or close contact
- more serious in infants less than 1 year old
- can cause meningitis, pneumonia, infections of the joints, bones, throat and heart covering

Measles

- easily spread by coughing, sneezing or close contact
- causes a rash, high fever, cough, runny nose, and watery eyes, lasting for 1-2 weeks
- causes ear infections and pneumonia in 1 of every 20 children who get it (U.S.)

Mumps

- spread by coughing, sneezing or close contact
- causes fever, headache, inflammation of the salivary glands which results in swelling of cheeks or jaw
- can cause permanent hearing loss

Rubella (German measles)

- spread by coughing, sneezing or close contact
- symptoms include mild discomfort, slight fever for 24 hours, and rash on the face and neck lasting 2-3 days
- most serious in pregnant women; 85% chance it will cause defects in unborn child if infection occurs early in pregnancy

Hepatitis B

- spread by blood and sexual contact with infected person
- infants born to infected mothers have up to a 90% chance of getting the infection
- can result in long-term chronic illness such as liver disease and cancer of the liver

Varicella (chickenpox)

- easily spread by coughing, sneezing and contact with chickenpox sores
- causes a blister-like rash, itching, tiredness and fever
- complications include pneumonia, brain damage and death

Hepatitis A

- spread by direct contact with infected person; infected children often show no symptoms
- causes fever, tiredness, nausea, stomach pain, poor appetite, jaundice; can cause serious liver infection

Pneumococcal disease

- spread by coughing, sneezing or close contact
- can cause blood infections and meningitis, especially in children less than 2 years old
- about 200 children less than 5 years old die each year from pneumococcal disease (U.S.)

Meningococcal disease

- spread by coughing, sneezing
- early symptoms like a cold (sore throat, fever, headache) which can progress rapidly and kill within hours
- about 15% of survivors have permanent damage such as hearing loss, brain damage or limb amputation

Influenza (Flu)

- very easily spread by coughing, sneezing or close contact
- causes high fever, dry cough, runny or stuffy nose and muscle aches; children may have nausea and vomiting
- young children and seniors are more likely to get serious complications like pneumonia or seizures

Rotavirus

- easily spread by contact with feces of infected person; can also be spread on contaminated hands and objects
- very common cause of severe diarrhea, often accompanied by vomiting, fever, and dehydration, in babies and young children.
- almost all children in the U.S. are likely to be infected at least once with rotavirus before their 5th birthday



Call to check your child's record with a nurse and ask about free baby shots.

1-888-692-2575

(Español al dorso)