

Vaccine side effects

Please wait a minimum of 15 minutes after immunisation

Vaccines given today ____ / ____ /20____ indicated below by tick in boxes. Time vaccine given _____.

Vaccines may cause: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pain, redness or swelling at the injection site an injection site lump that may last many weeks or months and no treatment is needed mild fever irritability, crying or extra sleepiness in babies fainting in older children and adults. 	Rotavirus vaccine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vomiting and diarrhoea can occur in the week following vaccination some babies will shed the rotavirus in their faeces with the first dose. <p style="text-align: center;">By mouth</p>	Pneumococcal vaccine	Diphtheria/tetanus/whooping cough/polio/hepatitis B/Hib* vaccine <p><small>*Haemophilus influenzae type b</small></p>											
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Measles/mumps/rubella	Hib*/Meningococcal C vaccine <p><small>*Haemophilus influenzae type b</small></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> loss of appetite. 	Measles/mumps/rubella/chickenpox vaccine <p>About 7 to 10 days after vaccination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fever (can be >39 °C) faint red rash (not infectious) head cold symptoms swelling of salivary glands. <p>About 5 to 26 days after vaccination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mild chickenpox-like rash. 	Diphtheria/tetanus/whooping cough/polio <p>Some 4-year-olds have a large injection site reaction of redness and swelling from the shoulder to the elbow which parents should report to the immunisation provider.</p>											
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Chickenpox vaccine	Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mild headache mild nausea. 	Diphtheria/tetanus/whooping cough or Diphtheria/tetanus	Influenza vaccine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> muscle aches. 											
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Polio vaccine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> muscle aches. 	Hepatitis B vaccine	<p>Common side effects occur soon after vaccination and last 1 to 2 days. Generally no treatment is required.</p> <p>If there is a fever, give extra fluids to drink and do not overdress. Paracetamol can be given if fever or pain is present (check the label for the correct use).</p> <p>Severe side effects are very rare.</p>												
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If you have left the immunisation centre and are worried a serious side effect from the vaccine is occurring at any time after immunisation, attend your doctor or hospital or call an ambulance immediately.

Very rare vaccine side effects requiring immediate medical attention

- Febrile convulsions generally occur in children under three years of age.
- The baby suddenly becomes pale, limp and unresponsive one to 48 hours after vaccination. Soon after the baby fully recovers.
- Intussusception (a portion of the bowel slides into the next like the pieces of a telescope causing a blockage) can occur in a baby in the first one to seven days after receiving the first or second dose of rotavirus vaccine. Signs of intussusception include:
 - bouts of crying
 - pale appearance
 - pulling the legs up to the stomach.
- Brachial neuritis (inflammation of a nerve in the arm, causing a feeling of weakness or numbness in the arm).
- A severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) occurs suddenly, usually within 15 minutes but can occur within hours of vaccine administration. Early signs of anaphylaxis include:
 - redness and or itching of the skin
 - breathing problems
 - a sense of distress.
- Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) (causing paralysis and sometimes numbness). GBS has been linked with influenza vaccine either rarely if at all.

For significant or unexpected side effects following immunisation, you can contact the Victorian vaccine safety service on 1300 882 924 / saefvic@mcri.edu.au / www.saefvic.org.au

This service does not give immediate emergency management for a side effect.

For further information contact:

- Your doctor
- Your local council immunisation service.

The following websites provide further information:

www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation

www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Material adapted from The Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th Edition 2013 (updated January 2014).

To receive this publication in an accessible format email: immunisation@health.vic.gov.au

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Available at: [http://docs.health.vic.gov.au/docs/doc/FEDAC5D8E0FF088ACA257B8900733D4C/\\$FILE/1305018_Vaccine%20side%20effects_WEB.pdf](http://docs.health.vic.gov.au/docs/doc/FEDAC5D8E0FF088ACA257B8900733D4C/$FILE/1305018_Vaccine%20side%20effects_WEB.pdf)

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