

Vaccine side effects

Please wait a minimum of 15 minutes after immunisation.

See over page for side effects common to all vaccines.

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

Rotavirus vaccine	Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough-polio-hepatitis B-Hib* vaccine	Pneumococcal vaccine	Meningococcal ACWY vaccine												
<p>Some babies will shed the rotavirus in their faeces.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> By mouth</p>	<p>*<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RL</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LL</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<input type="checkbox"/> RL	<input type="checkbox"/> LL	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RL</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LL</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<input type="checkbox"/> RL	<input type="checkbox"/> LL	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RL</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LL</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<input type="checkbox"/> RL	<input type="checkbox"/> LL
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<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib)	Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough vaccine	Measles-mumps-rubella-chickenpox vaccine	Measles-mumps-rubella vaccine												
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Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough-polio vaccine	Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine	Chickenpox vaccine	Meningococcal B												
<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 or the Victorian vaccine safety service (contact details overleaf).</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mild headache mild nausea. <table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<p>About 7 to 10 days after vaccination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fever (can be >39 °C) <p>About 5 to 26 days after vaccination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fever mild chickenpox-like rash. <table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fever (can be >39 °C) Bexsero® brand for children aged less than 2 years, give paracetamol in the 30 minutes before vaccination, or as soon as possible after vaccination. This should be followed by 2 more doses of paracetamol given 6 hours apart. <table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RL</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LL</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<input type="checkbox"/> RL	<input type="checkbox"/> LL		
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Influenza vaccine	Diphtheria-tetanus vaccine	Polio vaccine	Hepatitis B vaccine												
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Zoster (shingles) vaccine	Other														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> redness, pain, swelling and/or itch at the injection site see over page for rare reportable events. <table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LA</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> RL</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> LL</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> RA	<input type="checkbox"/> LA	<input type="checkbox"/> RL	<input type="checkbox"/> LL								
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Common side effects occur soon after vaccination and last 1 to 2 days

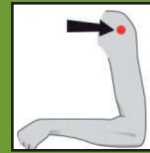
Vaccinations may cause the following reactions:



Mild fever (<math><38.5^{\circ}\text{C}</math>) that doesn't last long



Grizzly, unsettled, unhappy or sleepy



Where the needle was given: Sore, red, burning, itching or swelling for 1-2 days and/or small hard lump for a few weeks

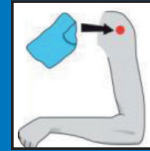
What to do at home:



If baby/child has a fever do not have too many clothes or blankets on. Paracetamol can be given (check the label for correct use).



Breast feed more frequently and/or give extra fluids



Put a cold wet cloth on the injection site.

When to seek medical advice:



If pain and fever are not relieved by paracetamol (eg. Panadol[®]).



If the reactions are not going away or getting worse or if you are worried at all, then see your doctor or go to hospital.



Very rare vaccine side effects requiring immediate medical attention

- Febrile convulsion: caused by a high fever, generally occurs in children under 3 years of age.
- The baby suddenly becomes pale, limp and unresponsive from 1 to 48 hours after vaccination. Soon after the baby fully recovers.
- Bowel blockage (intussusception): occurs when a portion of the bowel slides into the next, like the pieces of a telescope. This can occur in a baby in the 7 days following the 1st and 2nd dose of rotavirus vaccine. Signs of bowel blockage include:
 - bouts of crying
 - pale appearance
 - pulling the legs up to the stomach.
- Inflammation of a nerve in the arm (Brachial neuritis): causes a feeling of weakness or numbness in the arm.
- A severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) occurring suddenly, usually within 15 minutes of vaccine administration but can occur within hours of administration. Early signs of anaphylaxis include:
 - redness and or itching of the skin
 - breathing problems
 - a sense of distress.
- Guillain-Barre syndrome: causes ascending paralysis and sometimes numbness. In the past it has been linked with influenza vaccine either rarely if at all.
- After receiving a shingles (Zostavax[®]) vaccine, the following reactions may occur:
 - Chickenpox-like rash within 3 to 4 weeks after vaccine administration
 - feeling unwell /fever.

For significant or unexpected side effects following immunisation, you can contact the Victorian vaccine safety service on 1300 882 924 option 1 or visit <https://www.safevac.org.au/Home/Info/VIC> This service does not give immediate emergency management for a side effect.

Translating and interpreting service. Call 131 450



For further information: Contact your doctor, local council immunisation service or community pharmacist, or visit www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Order this resource at: <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/immunisation-resources-order-form>

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

Material adapted from Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI). Australian Immunisation Handbook, Australian Government Department of Health, Canberra, 2018, immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au.

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Available at: <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/publications/vaccine-side-effects>

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