

Pediatric Associates of Wellesley

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Information About Vaccines

Immunization against childhood infections is one of the most important things you can do to protect your child and your community against serious illness. Many parents are concerned about reactions to these vaccines. The overwhelming evidence is that these medicines are both safe and effective.

Most children do just fine after receiving these shots. Most reactions are mild and short-lived. These reactions are the result of your child's healthy immune system – it is acting like the vaccine has caused a small illness. Below, please find a description of the common reactions and some signs and symptoms that should prompt a call to our office.

Fever: One third of children will experience a rectal temperature greater than 100.4 after receiving vaccines. This fever usually begins a few hours to a day after the shots and lasts only a day, but can occasionally last up to three days. This fever responds to acetaminophen or ibuprofen (used only in children over six months of age). Fever is more common after administration of Pediarix, PCV-13, Hib and MMR vaccines. (Please see reverse side for names and acronyms of immunizations). With the MMR and Chicken Pox vaccines, fever begins 5-10 days after the dose. A fever over 105 degrees or one that does not respond to appropriate doses of medicine should prompt a call to our office.

Crankiness or Sleepiness: After receiving vaccines, some babies get cranky and/or sleepy. We have no way of knowing how any individual child will react. These reactions generally resolve within a day or two. Reasons to call our office include continuous, inconsolable crying for three hours or seizures.

Soreness or Redness: All vaccines can give some soreness or redness at the site of the shot. This can occur in about one fourth of children. This soreness generally lasts a day or two, but can last up to seven days. A cool compress (in babies) or an ice pack (in older children; for no more than five minutes at a time) can be of help, as can acetaminophen or ibuprofen. Some children develop a little bump or nodule in the muscle where the shot was given. This is called a "sterile abscess" and is usually painless, can last up to six weeks and resolves without any intervention. Redness or soreness is especially common after the third or fourth DTaP, Tdap or HPV doses. Please contact our office if the redness increases in size or pain after two days or if there is any pus or other drainage from a shot site.

Rash: Rash is more common after Varicella and MMR vaccines. The rash can occur 1-3 weeks after a dose anywhere on your child's body. The rash may be little bumps or dots. In the case of the Chicken Pox, this rash is a mild case of chicken pox and your child can spread chicken pox to someone who is immunocompromised (e.g on chemotherapy, has HIV/AIDS or other immunodeficiency). Please call our office if your child develops itchy hives right after a dose of vaccine.

A quick note about mercury: Please be reassured that – with the exception of the influenza vaccine for children over 3 years – none of the vaccines we administer have any mercury or thimerosal in them. Pediarix (combined DTaP-IPV-HBV vaccine) is processed with thimerosal but this is washed out prior to packaging to the point that none can be detected by testing.

Please find dosage charts for acetaminophen and ibuprofen as well as links to reliable web sites and Vaccine Information Sheets at our Web site:

paofwellesley.com

Pediatric Associates Well Child Visit and Immunization Schedule

<u>Age</u>	<u>Immunizations and Procedures</u>
Newborn visit	HBV (if did not receive in hospital)
1 month visit	
2 month visit	Pentacel, PCV-13, HBV, Rotateq
4 month visit	Pentacel, PCV-13, Rotateq
6 month visit	Pentacel, PCV-13, HBV, Rotateq
9 month visit	Flu shot recommended (seasonally, 6 mo – 18 yrs)
12 month visit	Varivax, PCV-13, anemia and lead test
15 month visit	DTaP, Hib, MMR, Hep A
18 month visit	
2 year visit	Anemia and lead test, Hep A
2.5 year visit	
3 year visit	Anemia and lead test
4 year visit	DTaP, IPV, MMR, Varicella
Yearly visit	
11 year visit	Tdap, Menactra
Yearly visit	HPV (for females)

Pentacel – Combination of DTap, IPV and HiB

DTap – Diphtheria, Tetanus and acellular Pertussis vaccine

IPV – Inactivated Polio Vaccine

Hib – Haemophilus Influenza type B conjugate vaccine

HBV – Hepatitis B vaccine

PCV-13 – Pneumococcal Conjugate 13-valent vaccine

Varivax – Varicella (chicken pox) vaccine

MMR – Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine

Hep A – Hepatitis A vaccine

Tdap – Tetanus, Diphtheria and acellular Pertussis vaccine (different concentrations than DTaP)

Menactra – Neisseria meningitis vaccine

HPV – Human Papilloma Virus Vaccine

Rotateq – Rotavirus Vaccine

Please find links to complete Vaccine Information Sheets at paofwellesley.com