

PARENTS
Protect
THEIR CHILDREN

Parents try hard to protect their children throughout their lives. Vaccines are one of the best ways to protect your child.

Your baby should receive a basic series of vaccines during the first two years of life, usually given at the following ages:

- Birth
- 2 Months
- 4 Months
- 6 Months
- 12-24 Months

IOWA
Immunization Program

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions,
please call your healthcare provider or the
Iowa Department of Public Health at
1-800-831-6293

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For additional information
on vaccines and diseases please visit:

www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/immunization.asp
www.immunize.org • www.cdc.gov/nip
www.vaccine.chop.edu • www.aap.org

IMMUNIZE FOR A
Better Life

IDPH 1/09

Infant Immunization



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HOW DO VACCINES WORK?

Vaccines teach the immune system how to recognize and fight bacteria and viruses before an infection happens. They provide protection without actually having to get the disease. Some vaccines require only one dose, while others require several doses to provide complete protection.

Many childhood diseases may have been forgotten but they are not gone. Vaccines protect against the following diseases:

Diphtheria

Hepatitis A

Influenza (flu)

Rotavirus

Polio

Tetanus (lockjaw)

Hepatitis B

Measles

Rubella

Varicella (Chickenpox)

Pertussis (whooping cough)

***Haemophilus influenzae* Type b (Hib)**

Mumps

Pneumococcal

If your child gets sick from one of these diseases it could be serious. They could suffer from blindness, brain damage, deafness, deformities, kidney damage, paralysis and even death.

IS THERE HELP AVAILABLE WITH THE COST OF IMMUNIZATION?

Many clinics in Iowa receive vaccine from a variety of sources, including the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC). Some of these sources provide vaccines at low or no cost to eligible families. Ask your healthcare provider if they participate in the VFC program. A list of VFC providers by county, including local public health agencies can be found on the Iowa Department of Public Health Web site at www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/immunization.asp.

YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD

It is important to maintain immunization records in a safe place. Proof of immunizations may be necessary throughout life. The Iowa Department of Public Health does not maintain historical paper immunization records. However, immunization records can be entered into a permanent statewide electronic database called Iowa's Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS). Talk with your healthcare provider about entering your immunization record into IRIS.