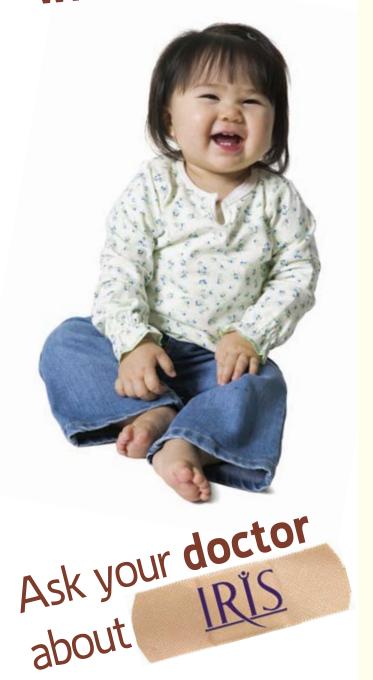
I can't remember when?



## What can parents do?

Immunizations are the most important thing parents can do to protect their children from harmful diseases. A few ways to help ensure the health of your child are:

- Make sure your child receives regular well-baby check-ups. Well baby check-ups coincide with the recommended immunization schedule and are a great time to discuss any questions regarding recommended immunizations.
- Schedule a 12 month well-baby check-up prior to your child's first birthday.
- Schedule your child's 5 year well-child check-up prior to kindergarten registration.
- Enroll your child in IRIS; Idaho's Immunization Reminder Information System

## Frequently asked questions

Q: Are immunizations safe?

A: Yes, immunizations are safe; however, like all medicines they are not 100% risk free. Vaccines may cause mild reactions like sore arms and a slight fever. Serious reactions are very rare. The risks can be discussed with your healthcare provider.

Q: Are infants completely immune to disease? A: No, newborns often have immunity to some diseases because they have antibodies from the mothers. However, maternal antibody immunity is only temporary and may not occur if the mother does not have immunity herself.

Q:Will my child get sick if I choose not to immunize? A: If your child is not exposed to any of these diseases, he/she will not get sick. If your under immunized child is exposed to any of these diseases, there is a good chance he/she will get sick. What happens depends on your child and the disease.

Q: Can multiple immunizations overwhelm an infants immune

A: No, an infants immune system is capable of handling multiple vaccinations at once. It is estimated that if I I vaccines were given to an infant at one time, about 0.1 percent of the immune system would be used to develop antibodies for these diseases/vaccinations.

## What is my child at risk for?

Pneumococcus: A bacteria spread through coughing, sneezing, or contact with respiratory secretions. It can cause fever, shortness of breath, headache, and meningitis.

pertussis pneumococcal meningococcal hepatitis a

Haemophilus influenzae type b: A severe bacterial infection occurring in infants and children under 5 years of age. It can cause meningitis, pneumonia, epiglotitis, skin infections, and arthritis.

**Pertussis (whooping cough):** Traditionally, Idaho has had a high incidence of pertussis. This disease is spread through coughing and sneezing. It causes coughing spells which can make it hard to eat, drink, or even breathe.

Hepatitis A: The disease is commonly spread through contaminated food, spreads easily, and can cause liver disease.

**Rotavirus:** Spread through contaminated environmental surfaces, food, and water. Rotavirus can cause severe diarrhea among children and is responsible for approximately 55,000 hospitalizations per year in the United Sates.

Hepatitis B: Spread through close contact with an infected individual. It can cause jaundice, liver cancer, liver failure, and death. An infant can contract Hepatitis B during birth if the mother is infected.

**Tetanus (lockjaw):** A bacteria that can enter the body through deep cuts or wounds. It can cause severe muscle spasms and nervous system disorders.

Varicella (chickenpox): Spread through coughing and sneezing, direct contact, and aerosolization from skin lesions. It can cause blister like lesions which can cover the body, fever, and can lead to a bacterial infection of the skin, swelling of the brain, and pneumonia.

Measles: Spread through coughing and sneezing. It can cause high fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes, diarrhea, ear infections, pneumonia, encephalitis, seizures, and death.

Mumps: Spread through direct contact with respiratory secretions, saliva, or contaminated surfaces. It can cause headache, muscle aches, swelling of salivary glands, encephalitis, and meningitis.

## At what age my child need to be immunized?

For more information regarding the recommended immunization schedule, please speak to your healthcare provider.

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Birth	at age 2 months	Mini- mum age for first dose	at age 4 months	Minimum interval from previous dose	at age 6 months	Minimum interval from previous dose	at age 12 months	Minimum interval from previous dose	at age 15 months	Minimum interval from previous dose	at age 18 months	Minimum interval from previous dose	
	PCV	6 weeks	PCV	4 weeks	PCV	4 weeks	PCV	8 weeks	MMR	On or after 1 <sup>st</sup> birthday	Нер А	6 months	
	Hib	6 weeks	Hib	4 weeks	Hib	4 weeks	Hib	4 weeks	DTaP	DTaP 6 months			
	Polio	6 weeks	Polio	4 weeks	Polio	4 weeks	Нер А	On or after 1st birthday	If you do not immunize your child, Idaho childcare rules allow for medical, religious and philosophical exemptions. Children with an immunization exemption must have an Idaho Certificate of Exemption				
	Rv	6 weeks	Rv	6 weeks	Rv	6 weeks	MMR	On or after 1st birthday					
	DTaP	6 weeks	DTaP	4 weeks	DTaP	4 weeks	Var	On or after 1st birthday					
Нер В	Нер В	Birth	Нер В	4 weeks	Нер В	8 weeks			form on file at the childcare facility.				

