



Immunization Assistance Program

Questions and Answers

Why are immunizations important?

Over the past few years, millions of children have been immunized in the United States. Because of this, we do not see many of these diseases anymore. Unfortunately, these illnesses are still active in other parts of the world and if we do not immunize against them here in the United States, the next disease outbreak could be a plane ride away. This is due to the fact that our society has become very mobile.

Which diseases can vaccines prevent?

Measles; Mumps; Polio; Rubella (German Measles); Pertussis (Whooping Cough); Hepatitis A; Hepatitis B; Tetanus; Haemophilus Influenzae, type b (HIB); Pneumococcal Disease (Pneumonia); Varicella (Chickenpox); Diphtheria; Rotavirus; Human Papillomavirus (HPV); and other miscellaneous diseases may be prevented with vaccinations.

What can I do to keep my child safe from disease?

- Find a health care provider for your children that you feel comfortable with and establish a long-lasting relationship.
- Make sure you keep the yellow vaccination card in a safe place. Take it with you every time you see your health care provider.
- Always ask your health care provider if your child is up-to-date with his/her vaccinations at each visit.
- Talk with your health care provider about placing immunization records in the California Immunization Registry (<http://cairweb.org/parents-and-general-public/>).

What about adults? Are they at risk?

Yes, adults are at risk for Flu, Pertussis (Whooping Cough), Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Tetanus, and Pneumococcal Disease (Pneumonia). It is important that adults check with their health care providers to see what immunizations they may need.

Where can my children receive immunizations?

All children in the County of Sacramento have access to immunizations. Children can receive immunizations from their health care provider, or if they do not have insurance coverage for immunizations the Department of Health and Human Services has an Immunization Program where low cost immunizations/vaccinations are provided to children under the age of nineteen (19). Even if parents cannot afford the low cost for these vaccinations, no child will be turned away.

For further information about immunizations, vaccine preventable diseases, or clinics near you, please call (916) 875-7468 (SHOT).

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