



Immunizations to Protect Your Child

“I want my daughter to grow up happy and healthy. It’s my job to keep her safe. Just like she wears her seat belt, I make sure she gets all her shots on time.”

—Kaiser Permanente member

We know you’re committed to doing everything you can to keep your child healthy and safe. We are too. That’s why we:

- Protect children against serious, preventable diseases with recommended immunizations by age.
- Believe no child should suffer from a preventable disease when safe, effective protection is available.
- Understand parents are faced with conflicting information about vaccines.
- Know that delaying or declining immunizations leaves your child unprotected when they’re most vulnerable.

How important are immunizations?

Vaccines strengthen your child’s immune system. Immunizations protect your child, family, and community from preventable diseases.

Without vaccinations, serious illnesses return. We’ve seen this happen in California with outbreaks of pertussis (whooping cough) and measles.

How can I protect my child?

Be sure to attend your well-child visits and keep up with all recommended immunizations. Here’s why it’s important:

- Staying on schedule is safest. Your child won’t be unprotected against serious diseases when they’re most vulnerable, and you won’t have to worry.
- Having combination shots reduces the total number of injections. They provide safe, effective protection.
- Getting multiple shots during an appointment means fewer trips to the doctor’s office. This is less stressful for your child.

What about after the vaccines?

Most children feel fine and go right back to their usual routine. The risk of mild side effects is low compared to the risk of serious illness. Serious side effects are very rare. Some children:

- Can have mild reactions after the injection. These include a sore arm, swelling at the site of the shot, or a low fever.
- May be fussy or sleepy afterward. This is more common in babies.

How will I know when immunizations are due?

Visit kpdoc.org/healthreminders to see when your child is due for well checks and immunizations.

When is my child due for well visits and immunizations?

Everyone 6 months and older needs a flu vaccine every year and a COVID-19 vaccine when due.

Stage	Age/Well Visit	Immunizations Needed*	Important Notes
Newborns	Right after birth	Hepatitis B (HepB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Babies are vulnerable to serious infections. Anyone who spends time with your baby should be up to date on COVID-19, Tdap, flu, and measles vaccines.
	2 to 4 days 2 to 4 weeks	<i>No immunizations due</i>	
Babies	2 months 4 months 6 months 9 to 10 months**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, polio (DTaP-HepB-IPV) Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib) Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV20) Rotavirus (RV at 2 and 4 months) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on whether the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine was given during pregnancy, and what time of year your baby was born, we may also recommend a one-time dose of RSV for your baby to help protect them.
Toddlers	12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTaP) Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib) Hepatitis A (HepA) Measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (MMRV) Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV20) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children 6 months to 8 years getting the flu vaccine for the first time need 2 doses.
	14 to 15 months**		
	18 months 24 months 30 months**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis A (HepA) 	
Preschool	3 years	<i>No immunizations due</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proof of required shots is needed to register for day care and school.
	4 to 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio (DTap-IPV) Measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (MMRV) 	
School Age	6 to 8 years	<i>No immunizations due</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HPV vaccine can be started at age 9. It's recommended for all children at age 11 or 12.
	9 to 10 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human papillomavirus (HPV) 	
Preteens	11 to 12 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap booster) Human papillomavirus (HPV) Meningococcal (Men ACWY) 	
Teens	Every 1 to 2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch-up as needed Meningococcal (Men ACWY) booster at age 16 years 	

*These recommendations are for generally healthy children. Your child's doctor may recommend a slightly different schedule.

**Your child's doctor may recommend a well-child visit (checkup) at this age.

To learn more, visit kp.org/mydoctor or vaccineinformation.org.

This information is not intended to diagnose or to take the place of medical advice or care you receive from your physician or other health care professional. If you have persistent health problems, or if you have additional questions, please consult with your doctor. Some photos may include models and not actual patients.