










"We as parents can only do so much to protect Jackson's health. Immunizations help assure a healthy life."  
—Jackson's Mom

# Immunizations:

Are one of the greatest achievements of medicine. They have been so successful, many parents have never seen most of the illnesses and complications that vaccines prevent. But these diseases still exist. Your child needs immunizations to be protected from them.

# Childhood Immunization Checklist

Ask your Doctor about combination vaccines.

Age:	Your child should get these shots:	✓
 Birth	Hepatitis B	
 2 MONTHS	DTaP – Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Hepatitis B Hib – <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib Meningitis) PCV – Pneumococcal disease Polio – Inactivated polio virus vaccine RV – Rotavirus	
 4 MONTHS	DTaP Hepatitis B – If 1 <sup>st</sup> dose given at 2 months instead of birth Hib PCV Polio RV	
 6 MONTHS	DTaP Hepatitis B Hib PCV Polio RV	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="font-size: 4em; margin-right: 10px;">}</div> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-right: 10px;">+</div> <div style="font-size: 4em; margin-left: 10px;">}</div> </div> <p><b>Annual Flu Shots</b> Recommended every fall for children 6 months to 18 years of age  Ask your doctor if your child also needs the H1N1 "swine flu" vaccine.</p>
 12 MONTHS	Hepatitis A Hib MMR – Measles, Mumps, and Rubella PCV Varicella – Chickenpox	
 15 MONTHS	DTaP – Can be given as early as 12 months.	
 18 MONTHS	Hepatitis A	
Before Kindergarten	Polio DTaP MMR Varicella	



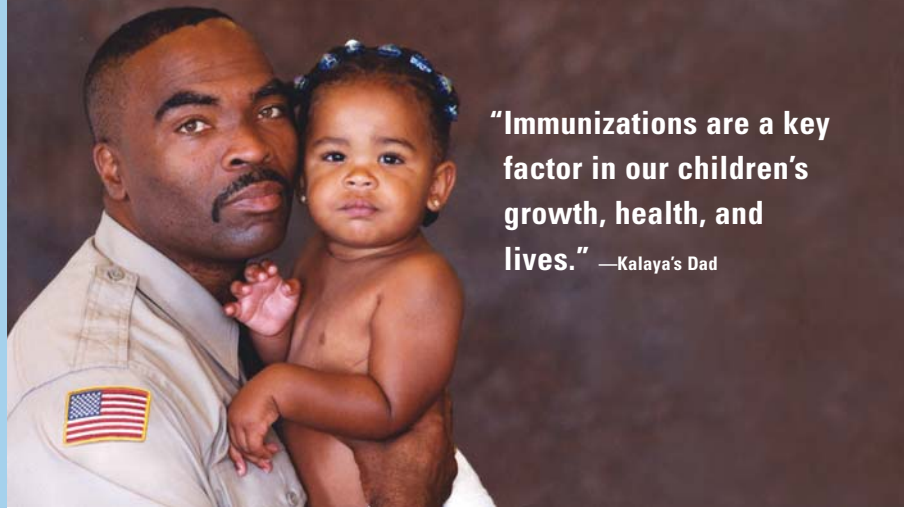
Parents,

Protect your little one with baby shots.



Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor—State of California  
Kimberly Belshé, Secretary—Health and Human Services Agency  
Mark B. Horton, MD, MSPH, Director—Department of Public Health  
Immunization Branch • 850 Marina Bay Parkway • Richmond, CA 94804

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**"Immunizations are a key factor in our children's growth, health, and lives."** —Kalaya's Dad

## What you can do:

- 1 Start your baby's shots on time – at birth.
- 2 Make sure your child stays on schedule (see back).
- 3 Bring your child's yellow Immunization Record to every doctor visit.
- 4 **Comfort your child by:**
  - ✓ Breastfeeding your baby during and after shots
  - ✓ Staying calm yourself
  - ✓ Talking in a soothing voice or singing
  - ✓ Holding your child
  - ✓ Bringing a familiar toy or blanket to use to distract & comfort your child
  - ✓ Allowing your child to cry



**"Our hope is that Erika grows up big, healthy, and happy."** — Erika's Family

## Why are immunizations important?

Immunizations can protect your child against serious childhood diseases that can make your child very sick. These diseases can even cause brain damage or death.

Immunizations also protect the community. If children are not immunized, they can be a health threat to babies too young or sick to get all their shots.

Immunizations are also called baby shots, boosters, vaccinations, shots, or vaccines.

## Are they safe?

Vaccines are very safe and effective. They prevent diseases by making the immune system stronger.

Babies are immunized when they are very young because some diseases that vaccines prevent are a lot more serious for babies or young children.

Sometimes children get mild reactions to the shots, like fever, a sore arm or leg, or swelling where the shot was given. Your doctor or nurse can talk about the risks with you before your children get their shots.



Your child needs shots at birth, 2, 4, 6, 12, 15 and 18 months of age.



Immunize your child for a lifetime of health.

## Need more information?

It is important that health information is based on credible science. ★  
Your doctor or clinic will give you Vaccine Information Statements to read.



For more information contact:

**American Academy of Pediatrics**  
[www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Hotline**  
1-800-CDC-INFO  
1-800-232-4636  
[www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)

**California Immunization Coalition**  
[www.whyichoose.org](http://www.whyichoose.org)

**California Department of Public Health**  
[www.GetImmunizedCA.org](http://www.GetImmunizedCA.org)

Ask your doctor.