



WhiteDove
N U R S E R Y

Immunisation Fact Sheet

Prevention is better than cure

When it comes to immunisation this statement is backed up by data with the World Health Organisation estimating that 2 to 3 million deaths are averted every year through immunisation.

Before enrolment at the nursery the Ministry requires us to site and copy details of your child's immunisation schedule.

Our nurse is always on hand to talk with you if you require further information or just want to talk something through.



Background

Immunisation is the process whereby a person is made immune or resistant to an infectious disease, typically by the administration of a vaccine.

Vaccines stimulate the body's own immune system to protect the person against subsequent infection or disease.

Immunisation is a proven tool for controlling and eliminating life threatening infectious diseases.

UNICEF supports immunisation programs all over the world and believes that childhood diseases are very serious and still threaten many communities.

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Immunisations, or vaccinations are given to help prevent people getting certain infections. A vaccine usually has a small dose of the inactive form of the germ or poison made by the germ.

As it is inactive it does not cause the infection but it causes your body to make antibodies or immune cells against the germ or poison. These antibodies are proteins that attack infecting germs. Once you are immunised antibodies are ready to attack the germ if it begins to invade our body.

A new-born baby has 'passive' immunity to several diseases from antibodies passed from its mother via the placenta.

This passive immunity only lasts for a few weeks or months. The recommended vaccination schedule takes this into account.

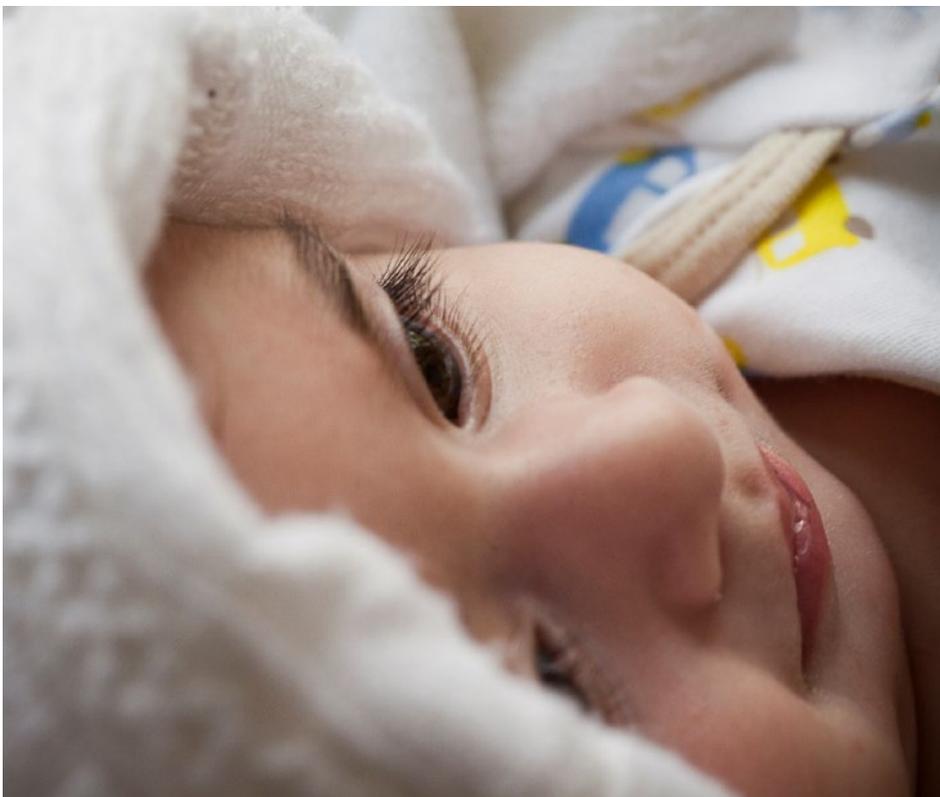
vaccine schedule (Table 2).

Age Vaccine	Birth	2 Mos	4Mos	6 Mos	12 Mos	18 Mos	5 - 6 Years
BCG	BCG						
Diphtheria, Pertusis, Tetanus		Dtap	Dtap	Dtap		Dtap	DPT
Haemophilus Influenza Type b		Hib	Hib	Hib		Hib	
Hep. B	HBV	HBV	HBV	HBV			
Polio		IPV	OPV	OPV		OPV	OPV
Pneumococcal		PCV	PCV	PCV		PCV	
Measles, Mumps, Rubella					MMR		MMR
Varicella					Varicella		Varicella

Combined Dose
 Single Dose

Table 2: National immunization program.

Be informed.
 There are many myths about vaccinations including those that linger from discredited research. For more information go to the World Health Organisation <http://www.who.int/features/qa/84/en/index>.



Key Actions

- Ensure your child is vaccinated
- Maintain the vaccination schedule
- If for some reason the vaccine is delayed or forgotten, resume the schedule from where you left off
- There is no need to begin again
- However it is best to keep to the schedule to ensure your child's protection