



## Childhood + Adolescent Vaccination Schedule



## What

Vaccinations are simple, safe, and effective ways of protecting against harmful diseases. Vaccines can train the body to prevent sicknesses before they even start. Without vaccines, children are at risk for getting seriously ill and suffering pain, disability, and even death from diseases like measles and whooping cough.

## When

Children begin vaccinations at birth and should receive their first doses of most vaccines during their first two years of life. They may need several doses of the vaccines to maintain protection.

## Where

Call your healthcare provider or local public health department to schedule vaccinations for your child.

## Why

Vaccinating your child will help protect him/her from these harmful diseases:

- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis A
- Diphtheria
- Tetanus (lockjaw)
- Pertussis (whooping cough)
- H. influenza type b disease (Hib)
- Polio
- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella (German measles)
- Varicella zoster (chickenpox)
- Pneumococcal disease
- Influenza (“flu”)
- Meningococcal disease
- Rotavirus disease
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)
- COVID-19
- RSV

## How Do I Pay For Vaccinations?

Many health insurance plans, including Medicaid and PeachCare, cover the cost of vaccinations. If your health insurance plan does not cover vaccinations, ask your healthcare provider if they are enrolled in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. VFC is a federally funded program that provides vaccines to local doctors and public health clinics for children who meet eligibility guidelines.



It is always better to prevent a disease than to treat one after it occurs. Vaccination is a safe, highly effective, and easy way to help keep your family healthy.

The recommended vaccination schedule balances when a child is likely to be exposed to a disease and when a vaccine will be most effective. Child care centers, schools and colleges require students to be up-to-date with their vaccinations.



## Are Vaccinations Safe?

Vaccines are very safe. The United States has a vaccine safety system to ensure that vaccines are as safe as possible. Millions of children safely receive vaccines each year.

## Are There Side Effects To Vaccinations?

Common side effects may include a slight fever or redness, tenderness and swelling at the site of vaccination for a day or two. These side effects are mild and sometimes don't appear at all. You should discuss any concerns you may have with your healthcare provider.

If you feel your child has had an unusual or severe side effect to a vaccination, contact your healthcare provider for immediate evaluation and attention.

## Can My Child Be Vaccinated Even If He/She Is Sick?

A minor illness should not prevent your child from being vaccinated. Talk to your healthcare provider to be sure.

## Where Can I Find A Record Of My Child's Vaccinations?

The Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS) is a secure, computer registry that stores information about vaccinations for Georgians of all ages. Please contact your healthcare provider or the Georgia Department of Public Health to obtain a copy of your child's information.



- Begin your child's vaccinations on time. Hepatitis B can be given at birth and other vaccines start at 6 weeks of age.
- Never miss a chance to get your child vaccinated.
- Have your doctor or nurse review, update and enter each vaccination given into the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS).
- Keep a record of your child's vaccinations and take it with you when you visit your doctor or public health clinic.
- If you do not have a record, ask your provider to check GRITS.
- Mark the due date of your child's next vaccination and stay on schedule.
- Talk with your doctor or nurse about each vaccine. Don't be afraid to ask questions.
- Be careful to review all vaccine facts that you receive before your child is vaccinated.

HOW TO

# COMFORT YOUR CHILD



## **Stay Calm**

Your child can sense if you are nervous or upset.

## **Talk Quietly**

Speak in a soothing, quiet voice to comfort your child.

## **Hold Your Child**

Being close to you will comfort your child.

## **Preoccupy Your Child**

Try to distract your child with other things such as singing or playing a game.

## **Bring A Toy**

A toy or special item from home can help calm your child.

## **Allow Your Child To Cry**

It's a normal response.

## **Be Truthful**

Don't tell your child it won't hurt.

## Vaccination Responsibilities

### WORKING TOGETHER TO VACCINATE CHILDREN

- Take your child to a health care provider for check-ups and vaccinations at the recommended times
- Review all vaccine facts received before your child is vaccinated
- Discuss any questions or concerns about vaccines with your child's health care provider
- Keep your child's personal vaccination record and take it with you on each visit to the health care provider to be assessed and updated
- Mark your child's vaccination due date and stay on schedule
- Obtain appropriate certificate for child care and school attendance from your health care provider
- Give a copy of the certificate to each facility your child attends

### PHYSICIANS AND PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS

- Know the current legal requirements for attendance and accurately completing the certificate
- Administer vaccinations according to the current Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Vaccination Schedule
- Report the occurrence of any diseases listed on the "Notifiable Disease List"
- Report any adverse event following the administration of a vaccine to VAERS

### CHILD CARE AND SCHOOL

- Review the certificates for validity prior to accepting
- Develop a system for vaccination certificate management
- Have certificates available for inspection and audit by health officials
- Report the occurrence of any disease listed on the "Notifiable Disease List"

## Child Care and School Attendance Required Forms

- The immunization form you need for your child to attend child care or school in Georgia is called the "Georgia Certificate of Immunization, Form 3231." Your child's immunization record must be reviewed by a Georgia doctor or public health clinic to get the certificate.
- Each facility your child attends should have a copy of the certificate on file. A photocopy is OK. For instance, if your second-grader goes to an after-school program at a private child care center, the school may have the original and the child care facility a photocopy.
- To register for school in Georgia, your child will also need a Form 3300, "Hearing / Vision / Dental Form," a birth certificate, Social Security card and proof of residence.

## Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services

- The Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS) is a secure, computer registry that stores information about vaccinations for Georgians of all ages. Vaccination records and forms are kept in GRITS to help individuals keep track of which vaccines they have had and which vaccines they may need.

# "When to Vaccinate" Checklist

Place a checkmark in the circle ☒ ABC to indicate completion.

VACCINE	Birth	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	4 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	15 MONTHS	18 MONTHS	19-23 MONTHS	2-3 YEARS	4-6 YEARS	7-10 YEARS	11-12 YEARS	13-15 YEARS	16 YEARS	17-18 YEARS
<b>HepB</b> Hepatitis B	<input checked="" type="radio"/> HepB	<input checked="" type="radio"/> HepB			<input checked="" type="radio"/> HepB											
<b>RV*</b> Rotavirus			<input checked="" type="radio"/> RV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> RV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> RV											
<b>DTaP**</b> Diphtheria, Pertussis, & Tetanus		<input checked="" type="radio"/> DTaP	<input checked="" type="radio"/> DTaP	<input checked="" type="radio"/> DTaP		<input checked="" type="radio"/> DTaP				<input checked="" type="radio"/> DTaP			<input checked="" type="radio"/> Tdap			
<b>Hib*</b> Haemophilus influenzae type B		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hib	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hib	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hib	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hib											
<b>IPV</b> Polio		<input checked="" type="radio"/> IPV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> IPV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> IPV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> IPV				CATCH UP	<input checked="" type="radio"/> IPV	CATCH UP					<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>PCV</b> Pneumococcal Conjugate		<input checked="" type="radio"/> PCV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> PCV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> PCV	<input checked="" type="radio"/> PCV				CATCH UP							<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>MMR</b> Measles, Mumps, & Rubella						<input checked="" type="radio"/> MMR			CATCH UP	<input checked="" type="radio"/> MMR	CATCH UP					<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Varicella</b> Chickenpox						<input checked="" type="radio"/> Varicella			CATCH UP	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Varicella	CATCH UP					<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>HepA*</b> Hepatitis A					<input checked="" type="radio"/> HepA			<input checked="" type="radio"/> HepA								
<b>MCV4**</b> Meningococcal													<input checked="" type="radio"/> MCV4	CATCH UP	<input checked="" type="radio"/> MCV4	
<b>Flu†</b> Influenza						<input checked="" type="radio"/> Flu (One or Two Doses Yearly)						<input checked="" type="radio"/> Flu (One Dose Yearly)				
<b>COVID-19‡</b> Coronavirus disease 19										<input checked="" type="radio"/> COVID-19						
<b>HPV**</b> Human Papillomavirus													<input checked="" type="radio"/> HPV			

**RV\*** **Hib\***

Administering a third dose at age 6 months depends on the brand of Hib or RV vaccine used for the previous dose.

**Flu†**

A child that is younger than 9 years + getting vaccinated against influenza (flu) for the first time should get two doses spaced at least 4 weeks apart.

**DTaP\*\*** **MCV4\*\*** **HPV\*\***

One dose of Tdap, one dose of MCV4, and 2 doses of HPV is recommended for persons 11-12 years. A booster dose of MCV4 is recommended at age 16 years. Children with high-risk conditions may need additional doses.

**COVID-19‡**

Number of doses recommended depends on your child's age + type of COVID-19 vaccine used.

**HepA\***

Two doses should be given between age 12 + 23 months. Both doses should be separated by at least 6 months.

**CATCH UP . . . .**

Vaccinations delayed or missed entirely should be given as soon as possible.

This schedule was adapted from the immunization schedule published by the Immunization Action Coalition and the recommendations approved by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).



# CONTACT US

GEORGIA IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

**[dph.georgia.gov/immunizations](https://dph.georgia.gov/immunizations)**

