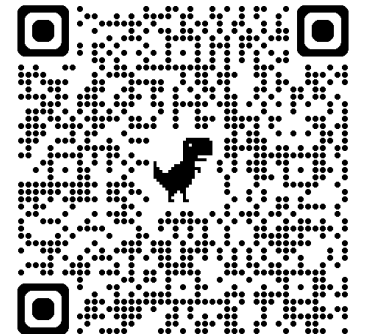


Vaccines for Healthy Kids

Presented by: *[INSERT YOUR ORGANIZATION NAME OR YOUR NAME HERE]*

Presentation created by the Language and Immunization for Kids Survey (LINKS) Team.
Scan this QR code to learn more about this project.



All About Vaccines

Vaccines Teach Our Bodies to Fight Germs

How do vaccines work?

- Vaccines introduce germs in a controlled way so the child's immune system learns to recognize the germ.
- Once the immune system can recognize a germ, it can protect against it if the child comes in contact with the germ in their community.
- These germs can be either bacteria or viruses that can cause serious infections.

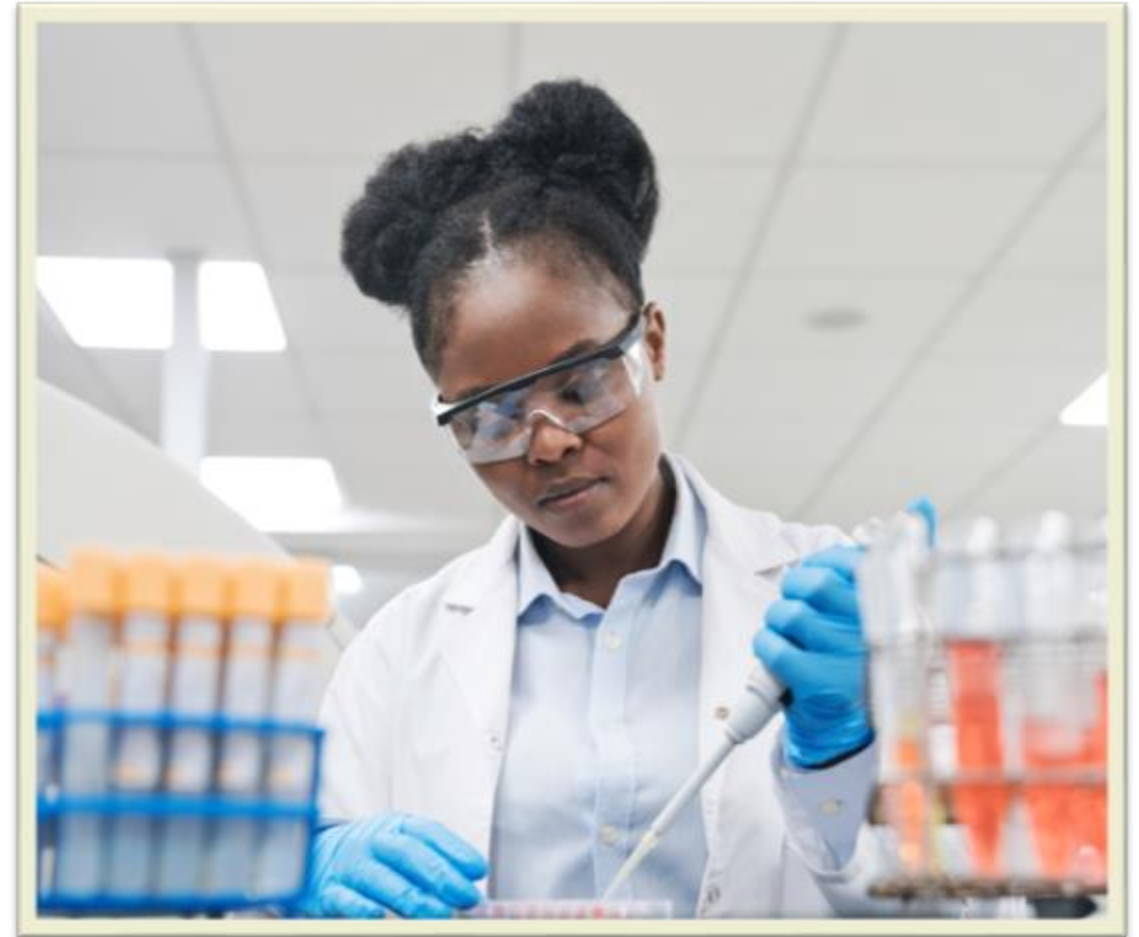
Vaccines Protect Our Health

Without vaccines, infections like measles, meningitis and whooping cough can lead to serious complications, hospitalization or death.



Vaccines Are Safe and Effective

- Researchers spend several years testing each vaccine in the laboratory to see if it can help protect against specific diseases.
- If the vaccine shows promising results, it will be tested in large studies in people. These are called clinical trials.



All Vaccines Are Tested

- Every vaccine goes through three phases of clinical trials. Each phase involves larger numbers of people, including thousands or tens of thousands of people before the vaccine is approved for use.
- Clinical trials study vaccine safety, dosage, common side effects, and effectiveness (ability to protect against the germ).
- If the vaccine works and is safe after the three phases of clinical trials, it will be approved for use in people.

It's Important to Follow the Vaccine Schedule

Vaccines are given based on a schedule of doses.

- Some vaccines require more than one dose. This is based on how the vaccines were determined to have the best protection and safety.
- The vaccine schedule considers:
 - At what age a child is most at risk to getting the disease
 - At what age a child's immune system provides the best protection after vaccination

- Shows the **age** that vaccines are given
- Shows **how many doses** of the vaccine are needed for protection








bitly

Scan this QR code to view this schedule.

Table 1 Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for Ages 18 Years or Younger, United States, 2025

These recommendations must be read with the **Notes** that follow. For those who fall behind or start late, provide catch-up vaccination at the earliest opportunity as indicated by the outlined purple bars. To determine minimum intervals between doses, see the catch-up schedule (Table 2).

Vaccine and other immunizing agents	Birth	1 mos	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	8 mos	9 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	19–23 mos	2–3 yrs	4–6 yrs	7–10 yrs	11–12 yrs	13–15 yrs	16 yrs	17–18 yrs	
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV-mAb [nirsevimab, clesrovimab])	1 dose during RSV season depending on maternal RSV vaccination status (See Notes)					1 dose nirsevimab during RSV season (See Notes)													
Hepatitis B (HepB)	1 st dose	2 nd dose			3 rd dose						See Notes								
Rotavirus (RV): RV1 (2-dose series), RV5 (3-dose series)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	See Notes														
Diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (DTaP <7 yrs)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	3 rd dose				4 th dose				5 th dose						
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	See Notes				3 rd or 4 th dose (See Notes)					See Notes					
Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV15, PCV20)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	3 rd dose				4 th dose					See Notes					
Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)			1 st dose	2 nd dose	3 rd dose							4 th dose		See Notes					
COVID-19 (1vCOV-mRNA, 1vCOV-aPS)					1 or more doses of 2025–2026 vaccine (See Notes)							1 dose of 2025–2026 vaccine (See Notes)							
Influenza					1 or 2 doses annually (See Notes)										1 dose annually (See Notes)				
Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)								1 st dose					2 nd dose		See Notes				
Varicella (VAR)								1 st dose					2 nd dose	See Notes					
Hepatitis A (HepA)								2-dose series (See Notes)					See Notes						
Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap ≥7 yrs)															1 st dose	See Notes			
Human papillomavirus (HPV)															2-dose series	See Notes			
Meningococcal (MenACWY-CRM ≥2 mos, MenACWY-TT ≥2years)					See Notes										1 st dose	2 nd dose			
Meningococcal B (MenB-4C, MenB-FHbp)																See Notes			
Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine (RSV [Abrysvo])																Seasonal administration during pregnancy if not previously vaccinated			
Dengue (DEN4CYD: 9–16 yrs)																Seropositive in areas with endemic dengue (See Notes)			
Mpox																			

 Range of recommended ages for all children
  Range of recommended ages for catch-up vaccination
  Range of recommended ages for certain high-risk groups or populations
  Recommended vaccination for those who desire protection
  Recommended vaccination based on shared clinical decision-making

Timely Vaccines Keep Communities Healthy

The more children that follow the vaccine schedule, the more immunity (protection from disease) there is in the community.

This keeps communities healthier.



Unvaccinated Children Can Catch Up

- If a child has not previously had access to all of the vaccines recommended in the U.S., their doctor may follow a **catch-up schedule** for their vaccinations.
 - This schedule is called a “catch-up schedule” because it supports children without access to vaccines to be caught up to kids their same age in the U.S.
- The catch-up schedule was studied and is safe to protect children at different ages.

What To Expect During Your Appointment

Before giving your child a vaccine:

- Health care professionals will assess the need for vaccines by reviewing the child's immunization history, the recommended vaccines for them based on their age, and the time of year for seasonal vaccines.
- Patients are screened for health conditions that would prevent them from being safe for vaccination. There are very few health conditions that prevent a child from being vaccinated.
- Patients are provided with **Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)** documents which explains benefits and risks of a vaccine.

 **Ask any questions you may have.**

Trained Health Care Workers Administer Vaccines

Vaccines are administered by health care workers that have received comprehensive training to safely give vaccines to children.

- These workers are often medical assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physicians, or pharmacists.



What To Expect After Vaccination

- Children may experience mild reactions after the vaccine.
 - The most common reactions are pain at the injection site, rash, or fever
- If you have any questions about what to expect after, you can:
 - ask the health care worker giving the vaccines
 - read the Vaccine Information Statement you received at the time of vaccination
 - call your doctor's office

Common Questions

Are all the ingredients in vaccines safe?

Yes, vaccine ingredients are safe.

Vaccines contain ingredients that make sure the vaccine will be stable and work.

This is tested extensively during clinical trials.

The ingredients in vaccines also occur in the natural environment. The amounts found in vaccines are small compared to the amounts in the natural environment.

Do vaccines cause autism?

There is no evidence that links vaccines as the cause of autism.

Several causes of autism have been found, but scientists do not know all of the causes yet.

But vaccines have been tested many times in many ways and have never been found to cause autism.

Can my child get a disease from the vaccine?

A child getting a disease from a vaccine is extremely unlikely.

Vaccines teach the immune system to recognize germs.

This means vaccinated children will not get the kind of severe illnesses that can follow exposure to germs in the community.

Is it better for my child's immune system to get the disease instead of the vaccine?

It is safer to receive a vaccine than to get the disease.

Vaccine-preventable diseases have many serious complications that can be avoided through immunization.

Vaccines cause an immune response without causing the disease.

Was the COVID-19 vaccine tested before it was approved?

Yes, the COVID-19 vaccine was tested before it was approved.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, scientists spent many years developing and testing different vaccines for coronaviruses that are similar to the one that caused COVID-19.

This previous research gave scientists an idea about where to start when developing the new vaccine.

First the vaccine was tested in labs for safety. Then the vaccine went through three phases of human trials with thousands of volunteers. Once the vaccine was proven to work and be safe, it was approved for public use.

Getting Your Child Vaccinated

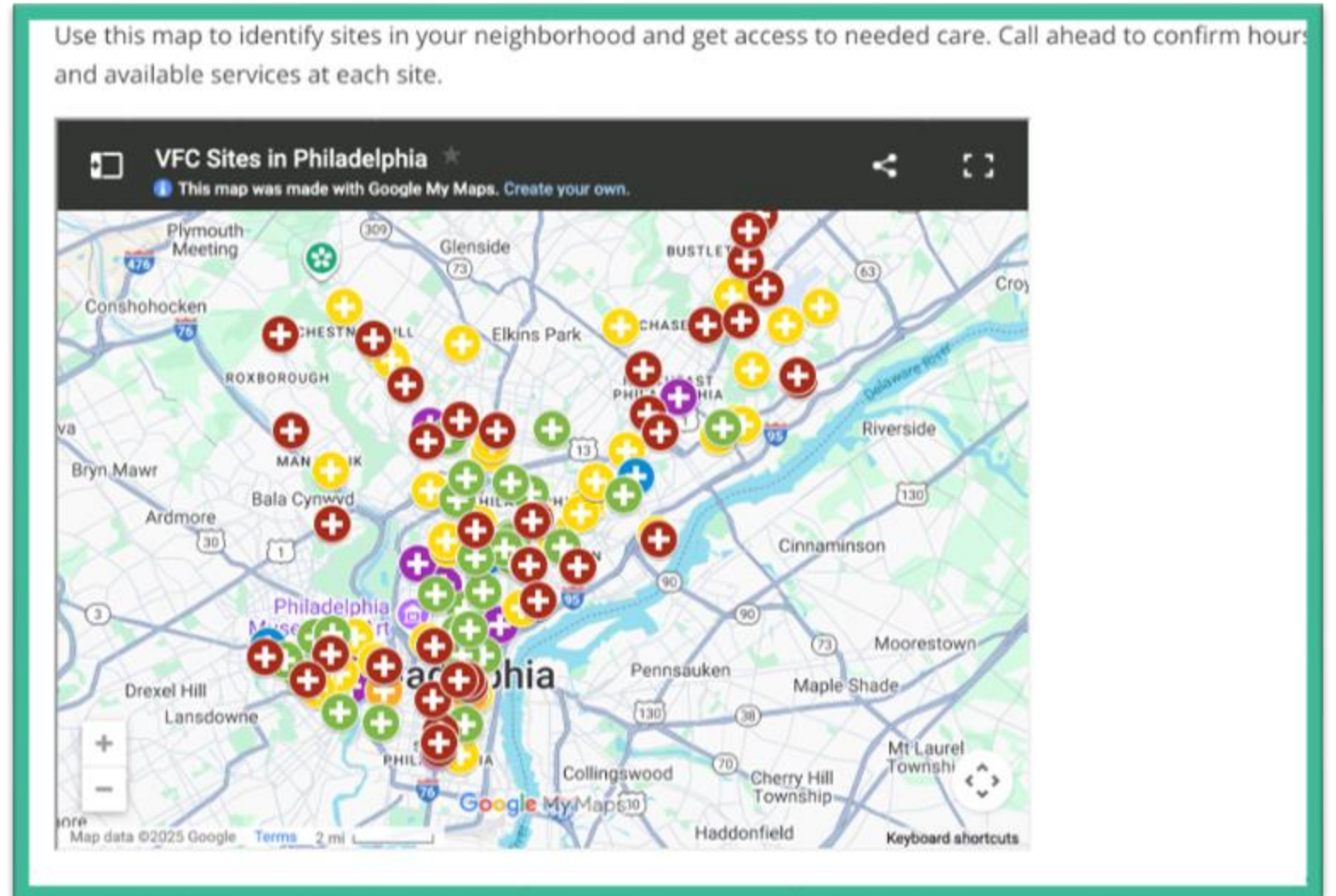
Vaccines are available in your community

- Your child's doctor's office
- Public health department
- Vaccine clinics
- Some schools
- Some pharmacies
 - Call or visit your local pharmacies and ask if they give vaccines to children



Example of Local Map for Finding Vaccines

- Maps of where to access vaccines can be found online.



There are many ways to pay for vaccines

- Private insurance
- Public insurance (Medicaid)
- People younger than 20 years of age can get vaccines from **Vaccines for Children (VFC)** at no cost if they:
 - Don't have health insurance
 - Medicaid eligible or enrolled
 - American Indian or Alaskan Native
 - Your insurance doesn't cover enough of your child's care ("underinsured")
- **Every child in the U.S. can get vaccines.**

If you have questions about vaccines, you can ask:



- Nurses (in schools or clinics)
- Your family's doctor
- Public health professionals
- Pharmacists
- Community health workers

If you would like more information about vaccines, visit these resources:

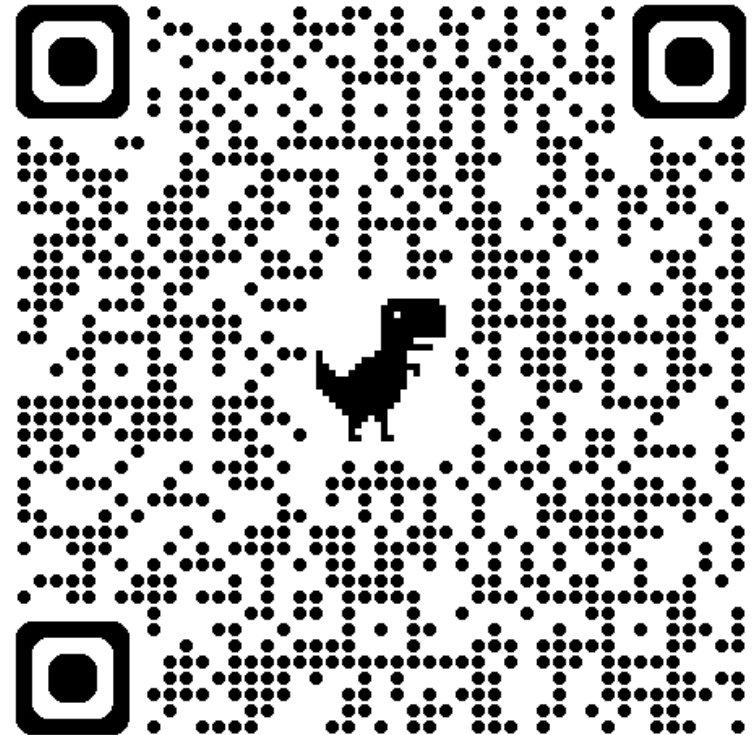
- **All About Vaccines:** <https://www.chop.edu/vaccine-education-center>
- **Explaining the Recommended Vaccination Schedule:** <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/immunizations/Pages/Recommended-Immunization-Schedules.aspx>
- **Finding Vaccine Programs:** <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/immunizations/Pages/vaccines-for-children-program-free-immunizations-when-cost-is-a-barrier.aspx>
- **Vaccines for young children:** <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/immunizations/Pages/Your-Babys-First-Vaccines.aspx>
- **Vaccines for tweens, teens and young adults:** <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/immunizations/Pages/Immunizations-for-Teenagers-and-Young-Adults.aspx>

Multilingual Vaccine Education Resources Recommended by LINKS Participants

Many of our study participants recommended valuable resources they utilize to reach multilingual communities.

Find the list of these resources on the LINKS website.

Scan this QR code to visit the site.



Multilingual Vaccine Education Resources Recommended by LINKS Participants

[Translated Vaccine Information Statements](#) | [Immunize.org](#)

Translations created by state Departments of Health

- [Vacúnalos Por Su Bien](#) | Colorado Department of Health
- [What are the vaccine requirements for individuals who move to CT as refugees or humanitarian parolees?](#) | Connecticut Department of Health
- [Measles Facts](#) | Minnesota Department of Health
- [Vaccines for Infants, Children, and Adolescents](#) | Minnesota Department of Health
- [School and Child Care Immunizations Information for Families](#) | Washington State Department of Health
- [Fact Sheets](#) | Wisconsin Department of Health
 - (search for others or click the vaccine-specific links at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/vpd.htm>)
- [Vaccine Information Videos](#) | Vermont Department of Health

Multilingual Vaccine Education Resources Recommended by LINKS Participants

Translations created by city and county DOH

- [“Proteja a su familia contra las enfermedades prevenibles por vacunas”](#) and related resources | Nashua, NH
- [“Grow Up Guide”](#) with links to free, colorful, printable materials in many languages | Philadelphia, PA
- [Parent notification letter templates](#) and related resources in multiple languages | Clark County, WA

Translations created by immunization coalitions and/or members

- [“Protect Against Measles” Campaign](#) (Spanish/English) | Immunize Kansas Coalition
- [“Key Resources”](#) (multiple languages) | Immunize Kansas Coalition
- [“Vaccine Fears Overturned by Facts” series](#) (Spanish/English) | Immunize Kansas Coalition
- [“Prevent Disease, Get Immunized”](#) | Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition

Multilingual Vaccine Education Resources Recommended by LINKS Participants

Translations created by other nonprofit organizations

- [Migration Health Initiative](#) (previously NRC-RIM)
- [Unity](#) (United for Adolescent Vaccination) in Spanish
- [Vermont Language Justice Project](#)

Books available to print or order (nonprofit)

- [Ultra Germ Fighters](#) comic from Seattle & King County Department of Health
- [The Immunizers](#) comic from Philadelphia Department of Health and Mighty Writers

Books available to order (commercial)

- Ava Antibody Explains Your Body and Vaccines available in English and Spanish
- Baby Medical School: My Doctor's Visit available in English and Spanish

References

- **Paying for Vaccines**

- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines-adults/recommended-vaccines/how-to-pay-adult-vaccines.html>
- [VaccineInformation.Org](https://www.vaccineinformation.org)
- <https://www.vaccineinformation.org/vaccine-basics/health-coverage-vaccines/>

- **Vaccine Facts & Safety**

- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines-children/reasons/index.html>
- <https://www.aaaai.org/tools-for-the-public/conditions-library/allergies/vaccine-myth-fact>
- <https://www.chop.edu/vaccine-education-center/vaccine-safety/other-vaccine-safety-concerns/are-vaccines-safe>

- **Immunization Schedules**

- <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/child-adolescent-age.html>
- <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/immunizations/Pages/Recommended-Immunization-Schedules.aspx>
- <https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/AAP-Immunization-Schedule.pdf>