Vaccine Safety: AAP Resources for Pediatricians

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Objectives

• Explain architecture of the AAP immunization Web site
• Show where to find resources on vaccine safety
• Highlight other partners’ resources on vaccine safety
AAP Immunization Web Site

www.aap.org/immunization
Many parents worry about the possible side effects of vaccinating their child and if their child really needs all those shots. Misinformation abounds on the Internet, making it hard to find a reliable source of information. Check below for expert answers on your top vaccine safety questions.

Thimerosal, Aluminum, & Other Ingredients

Vaccines contain many ingredients to help them protect children. Find out which ingredients are used in vaccines and why.

MMR and Autism

A few years ago, some parents believed that the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine was...
Families

- Making the Decision
- Preparing for Your Visit
- Visiting the Pediatrician
- After the Immunizations
- International Travel

Vaccine Safety

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Popular Resources

- Immunization Schedule
- Immunization Newsletter

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Vaccine Safety Page for Parents

- Thimerosal, Aluminum, & Other Ingredients
- MMR and Autism
- Why So Many Shots at Once?
- How Vaccines are Licensed and Studied
- Other Trusted Sources
Communicating with Families Page for Pediatricians

- CDC Toolkit
- Vaccine Information Statements
- Improve Liability Protection
- Safety Facts
- Posters
- Frequently Asked Questions
Featured AAP Fact Sheets

- Safety Overview
- Ingredients
- Schedule

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

The Childhood Immunization Schedule: Why Is It Like That?

Q1: Who decides what immunizations children need?
A: Each year, top disease experts and doctors who care for children work together to decide what to recommend that will best protect U.S. children from diseases. The schedule is evaluated each year based on the most recent scientific data available. Changes are announced in January, if needed. The schedule is approved by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Q2: How are the timing and spacing of the shots determined?
A: Each vaccine dose is scheduled using 2 factors. First, it is scheduled for the age when the body’s immune system will work the best. Second, it is balanced with the need to provide protection to infants and children at the earliest possible age.

Q3: Why are there so many doses?
A: Researchers are always studying how well vaccines work. For many vaccines three or four doses are needed to fully protect your child. The doses need to be spaced out a certain amount to work the best.

Q4: Why is the schedule “one size fits all?” Aren’t there some children who shouldn’t receive some vaccines?

http://www.aap.org/immunization/families/faq.html
Click here for a sample audio interview.
www.aap.org/protecttomorrow

Click here to watch the PSAs.
Partner Web Sites

- www.cdc.gov/vaccines
- www.immunize.org
- www.vaccinateyourbaby.org
- http://vaccine.chop.edu
Technical Assistance

• If you have questions or would like to find resources, please contact me directly at:
  Elizabeth Sobczyk
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• We also have a technical assistance line at: cispimmunize@aap.org
Questions?