

After an Immunization

Your child received at least one immunization (shot) today. Immunizations are very important to keep him healthy. Please review the Vaccine Information Sheets for possible side effects that your child might have. This information tells you what to do for minor side effects.

Your child received the following immunizations today:

- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis)
- Hepatitis B
- Pneumococcal
- IPV (inactivated polio virus)
- Hib (haemophilus influenza, type B)
- Rotavirus
- MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
- Chickenpox (varicella)
- Influenza
- Hepatitis A
- HPV (human papilloma virus)
- MCV (meningococcal)
- Tdap (tetanus, adult diphtheria, acellular pertussis)
- Other: _____

Fever:

If your child over 6 months of age has a temperature above 101.5° F (38.6° C), you may give him acetaminophen or ibuprofen. Be sure to follow the directions on the package for the amount to give your child based on age and weight. See "**Fever**" CARE CARD for more information.

- Encourage your child to drink fluids.
- Dress your child in lightweight comfortable clothes.
- Give your child a bath in room temperature water, if he still has a fever.

Swollen, Hot, Red Arm or Leg:

You may notice some soreness and swelling at the injection site. It may feel like a knot at the spot where the shot was given. Things you can do to decrease the soreness:

- Place a cool, clean washcloth over the sore area.
- Give acetaminophen or ibuprofen for pain.
- Do not rub the area as this may increase the pain or swelling.

Fussiness:

Be sure to give your child extra hugs and comfort today. You may want to give acetaminophen or ibuprofen for discomfort. Encourage your child to drink and eat as usual.

Rash:

After the MMR and chickenpox (varicella) vaccines, your child may break out in a rash 10-20 days after the immunization.

The MMR rash is not contagious, and it doesn't hurt or itch. It will go away on its own.

The chickenpox vaccine rash can be at the injection site and should be covered with a Band-Aid®. A chickenpox vaccine rash that is spread all over the body may be contagious. Try to keep your child away from anyone with a compromised immune system (such as cancer, HIV, or on corticosteroids or other medicines that affect the immune system).

Call your child's doctor or the Children's Mercy Hospital Information Line at (816) 234-3188 if:

- Your child has a temperature of 105° F (40.5° C) or higher.
- Your child is pale, limp or hard to awaken.
- Your child cries for more than 3 hours straight.
- Your child has a strange (high pitched) cry.
- Your child has a seizure (body shakes, twitches, or jerks).
- You have questions or concerns about your child's immunizations.

Your child's immunizations are next due: _____

You can also check these websites for more information:

- www.cdc.gov/vaccines – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- www.immunize.org – Immunization Action Coalition
- www.aap.org/immunization – American Academy of Pediatrics