

DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB Vaccine

Get protected, get immunized.

- Vaccines make your immune system stronger. They build antibodies to help prevent diseases.
- Immunization is safe. It is much safer to get immunized than to get these diseases.

What is the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?

This vaccine gets its name from the diseases it protects against: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib), and hepatitis B.

What is diphtheria?

Diphtheria is a nose and throat infection caused by bacteria. It spreads by coughing, sneezing, or having close contact with an infected person. It can cause trouble breathing or swallowing, heart failure, and paralysis (not being able to move all or part of your body).

Up to 1 out of 10 people who get diphtheria will die. In children under 5 years and adults older than 40 years, 2 to 4 out of 10 people who get diphtheria can die.

What is tetanus?

Tetanus is a bacterial infection that causes uncontrolled movements (spasms) in the muscles of the jaw and other muscles of the body. Tetanus bacteria are common in dirt, dust, manure (animal stool used as fertilizer), and human stool. They can get into the body through a cut on the skin or an animal bite.

Tetanus can cause:

- “lock jaw” where the mouth stays closed and cannot open widely
- trouble swallowing and breathing, seizures, and death

About 1 to 8 out of 10 people who get tetanus and are not immunized can die. Babies and older adults are most at risk.

Tetanus infection is rare because there has been a vaccine since the 1940s. Most people have been immunized against it.

What is pertussis?

Pertussis is an infection of the airways and lungs caused by bacteria. It spreads by coughing, sneezing, or having contact with someone who is infected. Pertussis can cause:

- a cough that can last for several weeks to months, sometimes ending with choking or vomiting
- problems with eating, drinking, and breathing (especially for babies)
- pneumonia (a type of lung infection)

In rare cases, pertussis can lead to seizures, brain injury, and death.

What is polio?

Polio is an infection of the nervous system (brain, spinal cord, and nerves) caused by a virus. Most people do not have symptoms but can still spread the disease.

Polio can:

- lead to paralysis and death
- spread through infected stool (poop) by getting onto hands or into food and water, and then into your mouth

What is *Haemophilus influenzae* type b?

Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) is a bacteria that can cause meningitis, which is a serious infection of the fluid and lining that cover the brain and spinal cord, blood, and other parts of the body.

Hib is spread by coughing or sneezing. It can lead to lifelong disabilities and death.

What is hepatitis B?

Hepatitis B is an infection in the liver that is caused by the hepatitis B virus. Symptoms include poor appetite, stomach pain, nausea (feeling sick to your stomach), vomiting (throwing up), and jaundice (yellow skin and eyes). Some people do not have any symptoms.

Up to 1 out of 10 adults who get infected with hepatitis B will develop an infection that does not go away ever (called a chronic infection). It can lead to liver damage (cirrhosis), liver cancer, and death.

The younger you are when you get hepatitis B, the higher the chance of having a chronic infection. For example, more than 9 out of 10 babies who are infected with hepatitis B will have a chronic infection.

When you have a chronic infection, you can spread hepatitis B to others, even if you do not look or feel sick.

Hepatitis B spreads by having contact with the blood and body fluids of a person who is infected. It can spread through:

- childbirth (if the person giving birth is infected)
- shared needles, razors, nail clippers, or toothbrushes
- contact with equipment that is not cleaned properly (such as needles used for tattoos, body piercings, or acupuncture)
- sex
- human bites or open sores

Who should get the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?

As part of the routine immunization schedule, babies get this vaccine starting at age 2 months.

How many doses does my child need?

Your child needs 3 doses of this vaccine, even if they already had a dose of the hepatitis B vaccine at birth.

The 3 doses of the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine are usually given at ages 2, 4, and 6 months. These initial doses are called the primary series.

When your child is older, they will get booster doses with other vaccines that protect against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio and Hib.

Are there other vaccines that protect against these diseases?

DTaP-IPV-Hib protects against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib). As part of the routine immunization schedule, this vaccine is given to children born before March 1, 2018, who are under age 7 years, as part of their primary series and to all children age 18 months as a booster dose.

Hepatitis B (HBV) Vaccine protects against hepatitis B.

How well does the vaccine work?

After 3 doses of DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine, protection for hepatitis B is 95% to 100%. After a booster dose, the protection is:

- almost 100% for diphtheria, tetanus, and polio
- around 90% for pertussis
- over 95% for Hib

Where can my child get the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?

Your child can get the vaccine at your local public health or community health centre.

Are there side effects from the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?

There can be side effects from the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine, but they tend to be mild and go away in a few days. Side effects may include:

- redness, swelling, a hard spot, or feeling sore where you had the needle
- crying, feeling tired, or getting upset easily
- itchiness
- fever
- not feeling hungry or not wanting to eat (poor appetite)
- vomiting or loose stool (diarrhea)

At least 1 out of 100 people who got this vaccine reported 1 or more of these side effects. In some cases, it is unknown if the vaccine caused these side effects.

It is important to stay at the clinic for 15 minutes after your vaccine. Some people may have a rare but serious allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. If anaphylaxis happens, you will get medicine to treat the symptoms.

It is rare to have a serious side effect. Call Health Link at 811 to report any serious or unusual side effects.

How can I manage side effects?

- To help with soreness and swelling, put a cool, wet cloth over the area where your child had the needle.
- There is medicine to help with fever or pain. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure what medicine or dose to give. Follow the directions on the package.
- Some people with health problems, such as a weak immune system, must call their doctor if they get a fever. If you have been told to do this, call your child's doctor even if you think the fever is from the vaccine.

Who should not get the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?

Your child may not be able to get this vaccine if:

- They have an allergy to any part of the vaccine.
- They had a severe (serious) or unusual side effect after this vaccine or one like it.
- They have health problems such as a weak immune system. (They may need a separate, higher dose of hepatitis B vaccine.)

If your child has allergies or has had a side effect from this vaccine in the past, check with your child's doctor or a public health nurse before they get the vaccine.

Although your child can get the vaccine if they have a mild illness such as a cold or fever, your child should stay home until they are feeling better to prevent spreading their illness to others.

My child is afraid of needles. How can we prepare for their immunization?

Many children have a fear of needles. You can do many things before, during, and after your child's immunization to help them be more comfortable.



Scan the QR code, visit ahs.ca/vaccinecomfort, or call Health Link at 811 for information.

For more information about immunization



Call Health Link at **811**



Scan the QR code or go to ahs.ca/immunize