

## Flu (Influenza) Vaccine

**Babies who are ages 6 months and older should get the seasonal flu vaccine every year.**

Influenza (flu) is very easily spread by coughing, sneezing, and even talking. You can also get the flu by touching something that has the flu virus on it and then touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Symptoms include fever, chills, cough, sore throat, headache, muscle aches, and tiredness. The flu can lead to pneumonia (lung infection) and dehydration (loss of body fluids) and can make you have to go to the hospital. It is especially dangerous for very young children and people with long-term conditions like asthma and diabetes. The first time babies or young children get this vaccine, they may need two doses at two different visits.

Vaccines are safe and will help protect your child from many diseases. Serious side effects from these vaccines are very rare.

Please check in with your child's provider to be sure your child has had all recommended vaccines.

### Questions?

Visit [VaxMaineKids.org](http://VaxMaineKids.org) to learn more.

### Childhood Immunization Schedule

Birth	1 month	2 months	4 months	6 months	9 months	12 months	15 months	18 months	19-23 months
HepB	HepB			HepB					
		RV	RV	RV				DTaP	
		DTaP	DTaP	DTaP					
		HiB	HiB	HiB			HiB		
		PCV	PCV	PCV			PCV		
		IPV	IPV	IPV					
							MMR		
							VAR		
							HepA		
				Influenza (yearly)					

For information on vaccines your child will receive in coming years, refer to our other brochures on childhood vaccines:

- 12-24 months old
- 4-6 years old
- Preteens and teens

# Vaccines for Children

## Between 0–9 months old



Our goal is to offer your family the best care possible, which includes making sure your child is up to date on all vaccines.

**MaineHealth**

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## DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) Vaccine

**Babies should get this shot at ages 2 months, 4 months, and 6 months old, between 15 and 18 months old, and between 4 and 6 years old.**

The DTaP vaccine combines 3 vaccines into 1 shot. DTaP protects against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis.

- **Diphtheria** is easily spread by coughing and sneezing. Symptoms can make it hard to swallow and breathe. It is most dangerous for children under 5.
- **Tetanus** is also called lockjaw. It is caused by a germ found in soil, which can enter the body through a cut or scrape. It causes painful muscle stiffness and breathing problems and can make you unable to move parts of your body (paralysis).
- **Pertussis** is also called whooping cough. It is easily spread by coughing and sneezing. It causes painful coughing that you can't stop. Whooping cough is most dangerous for young babies. More than half of babies under 1 who get the disease need to go to the hospital.

## Polio (IPV) Vaccine

**Babies should get this shot at ages 2 months, 4 months, between 6 and 18 months old and between 4 and 6 years old.**

Polio is spread easily in the stool or saliva of a person with the virus. It can make people weak and cause paralysis.

Note: DTaP, IPV, and HepB vaccines can be combined into one shot called Pediarix. DTaP, IPV, and Hib vaccines can be combined into one shot called Pentacel. Ask your child's doctor if either of these shots is an option for your child.

## Hepatitis B (HepB) Vaccine

**Babies should get this shot at birth, between 1 and 2 months old, and between 6 and 18 months old.**

Hepatitis B is a liver disease which can spread through blood or be transmitted from mother to child at birth. It can lead to liver cancer and other severe illnesses. You may not know if your baby is exposed to hepatitis B because many people who are infected do not look or feel sick.

## Rotavirus Vaccine (RV)

**Babies should get this vaccine at 2 months and 4 months old. Depending on the brand of vaccine your doctor's office uses, your baby might need a third dose at 6 months old. This vaccine is a liquid given by mouth.**

Rotavirus spreads easily in the stool of people with the virus. The virus can live on objects for several days. Rotavirus causes severe diarrhea and throwing up, which can lead to dehydration (loss of body fluids). It also causes fever and stomach pain. It is most dangerous for babies and young children.



## Pneumococcal Vaccine (PCV)

**Babies should get this shot at ages 2 months, 4 months, and 6 months old, and between 12 and 15 months old.**

Pneumococcal disease spreads by coughing and sneezing, but children can carry the bacteria in their nose and throat and spread it without being sick.

There are many types of pneumococcal disease. The most serious are pneumonia (lung infection), meningitis (infection of the covering of the brain and spinal cord), and sepsis (blood infection).

The most common of these is pneumonia, which causes fever and chills, coughing, difficulty breathing, and chest pain. Children under 2 are most at risk.

## Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type B) Vaccine

**Babies should get this shot at ages 2 months, 4 months, and 6 months old and between 12 and 15 months old.**

*Haemophilus influenzae* type B disease is spread by coughing or sneezing. Children under 5 are most at risk. The most common type of Hib disease is meningitis, which can damage the covering of the brain and spinal cord. Even with medical care, 1 out of 20 children with Hib meningitis die.