



## Immunization Information

Immunizations are designed to prevent common diseases in your child. Currently, there are immunizations available for the following diseases:

- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Rotavirus
- Diphtheria
- Rubella
- Human papillomavirus
- Measles
- Pneumococcal disease
- Haemophilus influenza
- Pertussis
- Chicken pox
- Mumps
- Polio
- Influenza
- Tetanus
- Meningococcus

The immunization process begins at birth and continues into adulthood. For a detailed schedule of immunizations, please see the 2007 Immunization Schedule on our forms page. This schedule may be altered if your child has underlying medical problems or reactions to immunizations. Additional immunizations may be required for travel abroad.

New vaccinations this year include rotavirus for newborns, and human papilloma for 11 year old females. Rotavirus is the leading cause of vomiting and diarrhea in young children during the winter months. Each year it is responsible for thousands of children being hospitalized for dehydration. The vaccine is designed to prevent children from catching rotavirus, or lessen the severity of the disease if your child does contract rotavirus.

Human papillomavirus is a viral infection that leads to inflammation of the cervix responsible for cervical cancer later in life. The virus does not cause any symptoms when contracted, but puts your daughter at higher risk for cervical cancer later in life. The vaccine is designed to prevent this infection and eliminate the risk of cervical cancer in young females.

A full discussion of the risks and benefits of each vaccine is beyond the scope of this document. We encourage each parent to discuss their concerns with their pediatrician at your well child visits. In addition, information can be found on websites for the American Academy of Pediatrics ([www.AAP.org](http://www.AAP.org)) and the Centers for Disease Control ([www.CDC.gov](http://www.CDC.gov)).

Please note: These guidelines are not meant to diagnose any condition, or treat any condition not diagnosed by a physician. They are provided for general information only. If you are concerned about your child's condition, call a physician or 911 immediately.