

# After your child is immunised

## Information for parents and caregivers

Most immunisations do not cause a reaction, but your child may develop a fever or experience tenderness, swelling and redness where the injection was given.

Here are some ways to make your child more comfortable.

Give your child lots of cuddles and lots of fluids to drink. If breastfeeding, give them lots of feeds.

### Fever

- If your child is hot, it can help to undress them down to a single layer, for example, a singlet and nappies or pants. Make sure the room is not too hot or too cold.

### Tenderness, swelling and redness at the injection site

- Ice wrapped in a dry cloth, or a cooled cloth, can be held over the injection site if it is sore.
- Don't rub the injection site. This can make the reaction worse.

### Medication

- Give paracetamol or ibuprofen only as advised by your doctor or nurse. Paracetamol may reduce the effectiveness of childhood vaccinations.

**If you are concerned about your child after their immunisation, contact your family doctor or nurse. You can also call Healthline 0800 611 116 day or night.**



their best protection

# These reactions can be expected, but they may not happen for all children

Today your child received	Vaccine	Most common reaction	When this could start
	Rotavirus ( <b>Rotarix®</b> )	Mild fever, diarrhoea, vomiting	Within 7 days
	Measles-mumps-rubella ( <b>Priorix®</b> )	Fever, rash, unsettled, swollen glands	Rash between 5 and 12 days after immunisation
	Diphtheria-tetanus-acellular pertussis-inactivated polio-hepatitis B/ <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b ( <b>INFANRIX® hexa</b> )  Pneumococcal ( <b>Prevenar 13®</b> )  <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b ( <b>Hiberix®</b> )  Diphtheria-tetanus-acellular pertussis-inactivated polio ( <b>INFANRIX® IPV</b> )  Hepatitis B ( <b>Engerix-B®</b> )	Fever, unsettled, swelling or soreness at the site of injection, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhoea	Within 6–24 hours
	Varicella ( <b>Varivax®</b> )	Swelling or redness at the injection site, fever, rash (rarely infectious)	Rash between 5 and 26 days after immunisation

Occasionally, more serious reactions to vaccines occur. If you are concerned about your child after their immunisation, contact your family doctor or nurse. You can also call **Healthline 0800 611 116** day or night. In an emergency, **call 111** for an ambulance.

Serious reactions are recorded by the Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring (CARM), and reports can be made online at [otago.ac.nz/carm](http://otago.ac.nz/carm). Your doctor or nurse can help you with this.

If your child has had a strong reaction to an immunisation, discuss future immunisations with your doctor. Most children can continue immunisation with medical supervision. For more information about immunisation call **0800 IMMUNE** or [immune.org.nz](http://immune.org.nz)

Phone:

After hours:



**Te Whatu Ora**  
Health New Zealand

**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government



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