

Parents Page

AUGUST 2018

Vaccines 101

When germs, such as bacteria or viruses, invade the body, they attack and multiply. This invasion is called an infection, and the infection is what causes illness. The immune system then has to fight the infection. Once it fights off the infection, the body has a supply of cells that help recognize and fight that disease in the future. These supplies of cells are called antibodies.

Vaccines help develop immunity by imitating an infection, but this "imitation" infection does not cause illness. Instead it causes the immune system to develop the same response as it does to a real infection so the body can recognize and fight the vaccine-preventable disease in the future. Sometimes, after getting a vaccine, the imitation infection can cause minor symptoms, such as fever. Such minor symptoms are normal and should be expected as the body builds immunity.

Immunizations are an excellent way to protect yourself and your family against many diseases.

Many people think that shots are only for babies. Actually, there are millions of people between the ages of 11-19 who are at risk of getting serious diseases like tetanus, meningitis, chickenpox, infections leading to cervical cancer, and others.

The widespread implementation of childhood vaccination programs has substantially reduced the occurrence of many vaccine-preventable diseases. However, adults may be at risk for these diseases and their complications if they escaped natural infection or have not been vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chicken pox) and poliomyelitis. A systematic approach to vaccination is necessary to ensure that every adult is appropriately protected against vaccine-preventable diseases.

Shots are required by law for children in attendance at public and private schools, preschools, child care facilities, and Head Start programs in Oregon. If you wish to claim a non-medical exemption, visit the Oregon Health Authority at www.oregon.gov website to find out how.

Parents, don't let your child get left behind! 

School Year 2018-2019

Oregon law requires the following shots for school and child care attendance*

A child 2-17 months entering Child Care or Early Education needs*	Check with your child's program or healthcare provider for required vaccines
A child 18 months or older entering Preschool, Child Care, or Head Start needs*	4 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP) 3 Polio 1 Varicella (chickenpox) 1 Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) 3 Hepatitis B 2 Hepatitis A 3 or 4 Hib
A student entering Kindergarten or Grades 1-6 needs*	5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP) 4 Polio 1 Varicella (chickenpox) 2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella 3 Hepatitis B 2 Hepatitis A
A student entering Grades 7-10 needs*	5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP) 1 Tdap 4 Polio 1 Varicella (chickenpox) 2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella 3 Hepatitis B 2 Hepatitis A
A student entering Grades 11-12 needs*	5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP) 1 Tdap 4 Polio 1 Varicella (chickenpox) 2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella 3 Hepatitis B

*At all ages and grades, the number of doses required varies by a child's age and how long ago they were vaccinated. Other vaccines may be recommended. Exemptions are also available. Please check with your child's school, child care or healthcare provider for details. 1/2018

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