# **Following vaccination**

# what to expect and what to do





A joint Australian, State and Territory Government Initiative

## All vaccinations may cause the following reactions:



Mild fever that doesn't last long <38.5°C



Where the needle was given: Sore, red, burning, itching or swelling for 1-2 days and/or small, hard lump for a few weeks



Grizzly, unsettled, unhappy and sleepy



Teenagers/adults fainting and muscle aches

#### SEE BACK PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL COMMON REACTIONS SPECIFIC TO EACH VACCINE

#### What to do at home:



If baby/child is hot don't have too many clothes or blankets on



Breast feed more frequently and/or give extra fluids



Put a cold wet cloth on the injection site if it is sore



For fever or pain give paracetamol. Follow instructions on the packaging

### When to seek medical advice:

See your health professional, or go to the hospital if:



Pain and fever are not relieved by paracetamol (eg. Panadol®)



The reactions are bad, not going away or getting worse or if you are worried at all



Any of the rare reactions below are experienced

# How to report an adverse reaction:

Significant events that occur following immunisation should be reported to your health professional. Alternatively you can report directly to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (www.tga.gov.au) or by phone to the Adverse Events Medical Line on 1300 633 424. Calls are answered by a registered pharmacist.

You can also report adverse events following vaccination to your state or territory health service.



### Rare reactions requiring immediate medical attention

As with any medication, on rare occasions, an individual may experience a severe reaction. Seek medical attention if any of the below are experienced and inform of recent vaccination.

#### **Anaphylaxis**

· A severe allergic reaction which occurs suddenly, usually within 15 minutes, however anaphylaxis can occur within hours of a vaccine being administered. Early signs of anaphylaxis include redness and/or itching of the skin, swelling (hives), breathing difficulties, persistent cough, hoarse voice and a sense of distress.

#### Intussusception (relates to rotavirus vaccine)

- · This is an uncommon form of bowel obstruction where one segment of the bowel slides into the next, much like the pieces of a telescope.
- · There is a very small risk of this occurring in a baby in the first week after receiving the first dose of rotavirus vaccine, and a smaller risk after the second vaccine dose.
- The baby cries more than usual, looks pale, gets very irritable and pulls legs up to the abdomen because of pain.

#### Seizure

• Some young children (especially aged 1–3 years) are more prone to seizures when experiencing a high fever caused by an infection or after a vaccine. The seizure usually lasts approximately 20 seconds and very rarely more than 2 minutes.

#### Where can I get more information?

Contact your health professional Visit health.gov.au/immunisation Contact your state or territory health service

#### **Practice contact details:**

Indicate injection sites by circling appropriate box: LA=Left Arm, RA=Right Arm, LL=Left Leg, RL=Right Leg

#### Measles, mumps, rubella vaccine Measles, mumps, rubella, Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping **Meningococcal B vaccine** (MMRII® or Priorix®) chickenpox vaccine cough vaccine (Bexsero®) (Priorix-Tetra®) Children (Infanrix® or Tripacel®) Adults and adolescents (Boostrix® or Adacel®) · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' • Fever (>38.5°C) is common • Reactions that may be present · Reactions that may be present · Very rarely, large injection site in young children receiving 7 to 10 days after vaccination: 7 to 10 days after vaccination: reactions (>50 mm) including this vaccine. Paracetamol will fever over 39°C - fever over 39°C limb swelling may occur reduce the likelihood of fever. (with the 4th or 5th dose of rash (not infectious) - rash (not infectious) For children less than 2 years of a tetanus-containing vaccine - head cold, runny nose, - head cold, runny nose, age, a dose of paracetamol is in children). These reactions cough, puffy eyes cough, puffy eyes usually start within 24–72 hours recommended 30 minutes before - swelling in the neck swelling in the neck vaccination or as soon as possible after vaccination, and resolve /under the chin. /under the chin. afterwards. Followed by two spontaneously within 3-5 days. • Reactions 5-26 days more doses 6 hours apart even if If this reaction extends beyond after vaccination: there is no fever. one or both joints, seek - mild chickenpox like rash medical advice. (may be infectious, seek medical advice). RL RL LA RA LL RL LA RA RL LA RA RA **Rotavirus vaccine** Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping **Shingles vaccine** Pneumococcal vaccine cough, polio vaccine (Shingrix®) (Rotarix®) (Pneumovax 23®) (Infanrix® IPV or Quadracel®) · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' Reactions that may be present · Vaccine virus can be shed · Large injection site reaction · Large injection site reaction of redness and swelling from in poo, particularly after the with redness and swelling, 1 to 3 days after vaccination: the shoulder to the elbow. first dose. Handwashing more common after the second tiredness If this reaction extends beyond is important after every or subsequent dose of this - headache one or both joints, seek nappy change. vaccine. fever medical advice. Intussusception muscle aches see 'rare reactions' gastrointestinal symptoms. LA RA LA RA LA RA BY MOUTH **Hepatitis A vaccine Hepatitis B vaccine** Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping **Pneumococcal vaccine** (Vaqta® Paediatric) (H-B-Vax® II Paediatric cough, hepatitis B, polio, (Prevenar 20®) or Engerix® B Paediatric) Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine (Infanrix® hexa or Vaxelis®) · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' Rash RL LA RA LA RA RL LA RA RL LA RA LL RL **Meningococcal ACWY vaccine** Haemophilus influenzae Human papillomavirus Pneumococcal vaccine type b vaccine (HPV) vaccine (Adult Prevenar 13®) (Nimenrix® or MenQuadfi®) (ActHIB®) (Gardasil®9) · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' Mild headache Mild nausea RL LA RA LL RL LA RA RL LA RA LA RA Influenza vaccine Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) (Abrysvo®) · See 'Common reactions' · See 'Common reactions' LA RA LL RL RL LA RA