We as parents can only do so much to protect Jackson's health. Immunizations help assure a healthy life.

—Jackson's Mom

Immunizations: Are one of the greatest achievements of medicine. They have been so successful, many parents have never seen most of the illnesses and complications that vaccines prevent. But these diseases still exist. Your child needs immunizations to be protected from them.

Protect your little one with immunizations.
What you can do:

1. Start your baby’s shots on time – at birth.
2. Make sure your child stays on schedule (see back).
3. Bring your child’s yellow Immunization Record to every doctor visit.
4. Comfort your child by:
   - Breastfeeding your baby during and after shots
   - Staying calm yourself
   - Talking in a soothing voice or singing
   - Holding your child
   - Bringing a familiar toy or blanket to use to distract & comfort your child
   - Allowing your child to cry

Immunize your child for a lifetime of health.

Why are immunizations important?

Immunizations can protect your child against serious childhood diseases that can make your child very sick. These diseases can even cause brain damage or death.

Immunizations also protect the community. If children are not immunized, they can be a health threat to babies too young or sick to get all their shots.

Are they safe?

Vaccines are very safe and effective. They prevent diseases by making the immune system stronger.

Babies are immunized when they are very young because some diseases that vaccines prevent are much more dangerous for babies or young children.

Sometimes children get mild reactions to the shots, like fever, a sore arm or leg, or swelling where the shot was given. Your doctor or nurse can talk about the risks with you before your children get their shots.

Need more information?

It is important that health information is based on credible science. Your doctor or clinic will give you Vaccine Information Statements to read.

For more information contact:

- American Academy of Pediatrics
  aap.org
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Hotline
  1-800-CDC-INFO
  1-800-232-4636
  cdc.gov/vaccines
- The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
  vaccine.chop.edu
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
  vaccines.gov
- California Department of Public Health
  GetImmunizedCA.org

Ask your doctor.