Immunization protects you from disease. Get protected, get immunized.

- Vaccines make your immune system stronger. They build antibodies to help prevent diseases.
- Immunization is safe. It is much safer to get immunized than to get these diseases.

What is the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?
This vaccine gets its name from the diseases it protects against: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), and hepatitis B.

Who should have the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?
Children born on or after March 1, 2018 get this vaccine starting at age 2 months.

How many doses does my child need?
Your child needs 3 doses of this vaccine, even if they already had a dose of the hepatitis B vaccine at birth.
The 3 doses of the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine are usually given at ages 2, 4, and 6 months. After these 3 doses, immunization for hepatitis B is finished.
When your child is older, they will get booster doses with other vaccines that protect against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio and Hib.

Are there other vaccines that protect against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), or hepatitis B?
DTaP-IPV-Hib protects against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, and Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib). This vaccine is given to children born before March 1, 2018, who are under age 7 years as part of their primary series. Children also get this vaccine as a booster dose when they are 18 months old.
Hepatitis B (HBV) Vaccine protects against hepatitis B.

How well does the vaccine work?
After 3 doses of DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine, protection for hepatitis B is 95% to 100%. After a booster dose, the protection is:
- almost 100% for diphtheria, tetanus, and polio
- around 90% for pertussis
- over 95% for Hib
If you are infected with the hepatitis B virus when your child is born, they will have 85% to 95% protection from the virus after they get all of the recommended doses of the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine.

Where can my child get the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?
Your child can get the vaccine at a public health office in your area.

Are there side effects from the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?
There can be side effects from the DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine, but they tend to be mild and go away in a few days. Side effects may include:
- redness, swelling, or feeling sore where you had the needle
- crying, feeling tired, or getting upset easily
- itchiness
- fever
- not feeling hungry or not wanting to eat (poor appetite)
- vomiting or loose stool (diarrhea)
It is important to stay at the clinic for 15 minutes after your vaccine. Some people may have a rare but serious allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. If anaphylaxis happens, you will get medicine to treat the symptoms.
It is rare to have a serious side effect. Call Health Link at 811 to report any serious or unusual side effects.

How can I manage side effects?
- To help with soreness and swelling, put a cool, wet cloth over the area where your child had the needle.
- There is medicine to help with fever or pain. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure what medicine or dosage to give. Follow the directions on the package.
- Children under the age of 18 years should not take aspirin because it can cause serious health problems.
- Some people with health problems, such as a weak immune system, must call their doctor if they get a fever. If you have been told to do this, call your child’s doctor even if you think the fever is from the vaccine.
Who should not have DTaP-IPV-Hib-HB vaccine?

Your child may not be able to have the vaccine if they:
- have an allergy to parts of the vaccine
- had a severe or unusual side effect after this vaccine or one like it
- have health problems such as a weak immune system

If your child has a weak immune system or other health problems, they may need a separate, higher dose of hepatitis B vaccine. Check with your child’s doctor or a public health nurse before they get the vaccine.

Your child can still have the vaccine if they have a mild illness such as a cold or fever. Always tell your healthcare provider if your child has allergies or if they had a side effect from a vaccine in the past.

For More Information

Call Health Link at 811
Go to ImmunizeAlberta.ca
Go to MyHealth.Alberta.ca

Facts about diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b, and hepatitis B

What is diphtheria?
Diphtheria is a nose and throat infection caused by bacteria. It is spread by coughing, sneezing, or close contact with an infected person. It can cause trouble breathing or swallowing, heart failure, and paralysis.

One out of 10 people who get diphtheria will die.

What is tetanus?
Tetanus is a bacterial infection that causes uncontrolled movements (spasms) in the muscles of the jaw and other muscles of the body. Tetanus bacteria are common in dirt, manure (animal stool), and human stool. They can get into the body through a cut on the skin or an animal bite.

Tetanus can cause:
- a condition called lock jaw where the mouth stays closed and cannot open widely
- trouble breathing, seizures, and death

Getting tetanus is rare because there has been a vaccine since the 1940s. Most people have been immunized against it.

What is pertussis?
Pertussis is an infection of the airways caused by bacteria. It is spread by coughing, sneezing, or contact with an infected person. Pertussis can cause:
- coughing spells that can last for months
- a hard time eating, drinking, and breathing (especially for babies)
- pneumonia

In rare cases, pertussis can lead to seizures, brain injury, and death.

What is polio?
Polio is an infection of the nervous system (brain, spinal cord, and nerves) caused by a virus. Most people do not have symptoms but can spread the disease.

Polio can:
- lead to paralysis and death
- spread through infected stool by getting onto hands or into food and water, and then into your mouth

What is Haemophilus influenzae type b?
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) is a bacteria that can cause a serious infection of the fluid and lining that cover the brain and spinal cord (called meningitis), blood, and other parts of the body.

Hib is spread by coughing or sneezing. It can lead to lifelong disabilities and death.

What is hepatitis B?
Hepatitis B is an infection in the liver that is caused by a virus. Symptoms include poor appetite, stomach pain, nausea, vomiting, and yellow skin and eyes (jaundice). Some people do not have any symptoms.

One out of 10 adults who are infected with hepatitis B have an infection that does not go away (called a chronic infection).
- The younger you are, the higher the chance of having a chronic infection. For example, more than 9 out of 10 babies who are infected with hepatitis B will have chronic infection.
- If you have a chronic hepatitis B infection, you have it forever. You can spread it to others, even if you do not look or feel sick.
- A chronic hepatitis B infection can lead to liver damage (cirrhosis), liver cancer, and death.

Hepatitis B spreads through:
- childbirth (if the mother is infected)
- sharing needles, razors, nail clippers, or toothbrushes
- contact with equipment that is not cleaned properly (such as needles used for tattoos, body piercings, or acupuncture)
- sex
- human bites or open sores