

# IMMUNISATION

## COMMON OBSERVED REACTIONS TO VACCINES AND WHAT TO DO

ALL VACCINE NEEDLES (INJECTIONS) MAY CAUSE THE FOLLOWING REACTIONS:



Mild fever  
< 38.5°  
short  
lasting



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  
and unhappy

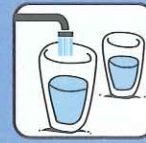
### WHAT TO DO AT HOME:



Give paracetamol (eg. Panadol®), in the appropriate formulation for the age of child/adult. Administer in accordance with the directions on the pack as needed if hot, grizzly or for sore injection site.



Do not put  
on lots of  
clothes or  
blankets if  
hot



Give  
extra  
fluids



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

### WHEN TO SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE:



Paracetamol (eg. Panadol®)  
is needed for more than  
1 or 2 days



Side effects are bad and  
not going away. Or, if you  
are worried at all

## COMMONLY OBSERVED REACTIONS TO VACCINES ON THE NATIONAL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM












VACCINE	POSSIBLE VACCINE REACTION	GIVEN	SITE
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis containing vaccines (DTPa)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irritable, crying, unsettled and generally unhappy</li> <li>Drowsiness or tiredness</li> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule – may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	 not hungry  
Pneumococcal containing vaccines (PPV & PCV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule – may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> </ul>	 Sleepy  
Rotavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-3 in 100 recipients may develop vomiting and diarrhoea up to 7 days after vaccination</li> </ul>		

PRACTICE CONTACT DETAILS:

Immunisation  
saves lives

gp  
General Practice  
NSW

# COMMONLY OBSERVED REACTIONS TO VACCINES ON THE NATIONAL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM

VACCINE	POSSIBLE VACCINE REACTION	GIVEN	SITE
Meningococcal C (MenCCV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irritable, crying, unsettled and generally unhappy</li> <li>Headache (usually observed in adolescent/adults)</li> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of appetite</li> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule – may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	 <p>Headache</p> <input type="checkbox"/> 
Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule – may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Seen 5 to 10 days after vaccination:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low grade temperature (fever) lasting 2-3 days</li> <li>Head cold and/or runny nose, cough and/or puffy eyes</li> </ul>	 <p>Faint red rash (not infectious)</p> <input type="checkbox"/> 
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule – may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> 
Varicella/Chicken Pox (VZV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule – may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Seen 5 to 26 days after vaccination:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few small red lumps or blisters (2-5 lesions) usually at injection site which occasionally covers other parts of the body (mild infection)</li> </ul>	 <p>Mild rash</p> <input type="checkbox"/> 
Polio containing vaccines (IPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Muscle aches</li> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule, may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> 
Hepatitis B (Hep B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule, may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> 
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mild nausea</li> <li>Mild headache</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> 
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis containing vaccines (dTpa)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drowsiness or tiredness</li> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule, may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> 
Influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drowsiness or tiredness</li> <li>Localised pain, redness and swelling at injection site</li> <li>Low grade temperature (fever)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occasionally injection site nodule, may last many weeks (no treatment needed)</li> <li>Muscle aches</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> 