

# Children's Immunisation Centre

## GENERAL PATIENT INFORMATION INFANT VACCINES 6 Weeks to 13 Months

The Immunisation and Medical Centre is pro-vaccination and offers a range of vaccination choices that are either no longer/not yet available through the NHS, or only available to restricted vulnerable groups.

For those aged 6 weeks to 13 months these include:

- Mono component Polio (inactivated)
- Tetanus
- Diphtheria/Tetanus
- Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis
- Hib/Meningitis C
- Pneumococcal Meningitis
- BCG (TB)
- Rotavirus

We also offer mono component Measles, Rubella, Mumps and Chickenpox from 13 months (please request our 'yellow' leaflet), hay fever from age 6 ('green' leaflet), cervical cancer from age 12 ('pink leaflet') and travel vaccines for all ages ('blue' leaflet).

### **About Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (Whooping Cough)**

For parents who have not immunised with the 5 in 1, or simply wish to space the vaccinations out as much as possible, we offer the following:

**Polio** – Polio attacks the nervous system and if not fatal can be extremely debilitating, leaving the sufferer with permanent paralysis. All but eradicated from Western societies, it is typical of the sort of disease that can resurface if significant numbers opt out of immunisation or there are immigrants from affected areas. 3 doses are required spaced at minimum 4 week intervals for infants (from age 2 months), single dose as a booster/travel vaccine.

**Tetanus** –Tetanus is a disease affecting the nervous system which can lead to muscle spasms, cause breathing problems and can kill. Spores of the tetanus bacteria live in soil and dirt and can enter the body through cuts and sores. The mono component vaccine requires 3 doses (from age 2 months) at minimum 4 week intervals, or one dose as a booster (due every 10 years).

**Diphtheria/Tetanus** - Diphtheria begins with a sore throat and can quickly cause breathing problems. It causes damage to the heart and nervous system and can kill. 3 doses of the combined vaccine are recommended (from age 2 months) at minimum 4 week intervals, one for booster.

**Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis** – as above but includes Whooping Cough (long bouts of coughing and choking, making it difficult to breathe).

### **About Hib/Men C**

Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b) can cause major illnesses such as blood poisoning (septicaemia), pneumonia and meningitis. Men C (Meningococcal group C) bacteria also causes septicaemia and meningitis. Early symptoms are similar to a cold or flu but these conditions progress very rapidly (within hours). Septicaemia can result in loss of limbs (by amputation) or death. Meningitis is swelling of the lining of the brain and can result in permanent brain damage or death.

3 doses of the vaccine are required, around age 2 months, 4 months and 1 year of age.

### **About Pneumococcal Meningitis**

Pneumococcal meningitis is currently the second most common form of the disease and is fatal in around 20% of cases. A further 25% of those who survive suffer life changing side effects, including brain damage, loss of limbs (due to blood poisoning) deafness and epilepsy. Infection can occur at any time although under 5's and those aged 15 – 19 are at particularly high risk.

Pneumococcal meningitis was introduced to the infant vaccination schedule in September 2006 but the NHS catch up programme was limited to those aged up to 2 years old. If your child was born before September 2004, they will have missed out. Whilst under 2's require several doses, just one injection is required for those 2 years old and over. Pneumococcal meningitis is also recommended as a travel vaccine.

### **About Tuberculosis (BCG)**

Tuberculosis, commonly known as 'consumption' in Victorian times, is once again on the increase in the UK, largely due to immigration. Highly infectious, the disease is spread by breathing in infected droplets exhaled when sufferers cough, speak or sneeze. First and foremost tuberculosis is a disease of the lungs but can spread to other organs and if left untreated is usually fatal.

Treatment now takes the form of a strong course of antibiotics lasting at least 6 months, although some resistant strains can require chemotherapy. BCG jabs are no longer given routinely on the NHS except to very high risk groups. Protection is provided by a single injection given anytime after 2 months of age. Those aged under 6 years old can proceed directly to vaccination, those aged 6 and over will first require a skin test ('Mantoux'), as vaccination is not appropriate if (as occasionally happens) natural immunity has been acquired.

### **About Rotavirus**

Rotavirus is the most common cause of gastroenteritis (severe vomiting and diarrhoea) in children. It is so infectious that 95% of children will come down with it at least once before their birthday. Rotavirus causes dehydration more frequently than other tummy bugs, which can be very serious in babies, resulting in organ failure and even death.

Protection is given orally, in 2 doses spread 4 weeks apart, between the ages of 4 and 24 weeks of age.

### **Manufacturers recommend we follow these guidelines:-**

Our doctor will discuss your baby's health, any of your concerns and examine your child prior to immunisation.

#### **The patient must not be suffering from a fever or be on antibiotics**

##### ***Use with caution in:***

- Allergy to eggs (please request our egg free vaccine not manufactured for Mumps)
- Conditions in which fever should be avoided
- HIV infection
- Injury to the brain

##### ***Not to be used in:***

- Active and untreated tuberculosis
- Blood disorders
- Decreased action of the body's natural defences against disease (impaired response)
- Pregnancy
- Previous extreme allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to any of the vaccine's components e.g. gelatine
- Previous extreme allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to the antibiotic Neomycin
- Sudden feverish illness
- Untreated malignant or cancerous disease

## **Side Effects**

Serious allergic reactions are a very rare possibility with any vaccines. Medicines and their possible side effects can affect individual people in different ways; the following are some of the side effects that are known to be associated with the vaccines. It does not mean that all people using these vaccines will have any side effects.

**Polio (inactivated)** – Very common adverse reactions include local redness and/or swelling around the site of the injection. Dizziness, sickness/diarrhoea, fever, headache, drowsiness, irritability and crying, joint and muscle pain, and trouble sleeping are all relatively common. Very rarely there can be swollen glands, a rash at the injection site lasting 1 – 2 days, flu like systems and pins and needles that will clear up without treatment.

**Tetanus Vaccine** - Mild local reactions and tenderness at injection site are common. Mild fever and irritability are possibilities.

**Diphtheria/Tetanus** – As above for Tetanus.

**Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis** – Redness, tenderness and swelling at the injection site are common. Mild, transient fever and irritability are common as is drowsiness, vomiting and persistent crying during the first 24 - 48 hours post vaccination. Very rarely high fever, screaming episodes, convulsions, collapse and encephalitis have been noted. There is a possible but unproved link between vaccines containing Pertussis and sudden infant death syndrome.

**Hib/Men C** – Pain, redness or swelling at the injection site and a mild fever (temperature of  $>37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  -  $38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) are common, together with jitteriness, irritability, loss of appetite and sleepiness. Crying, sickness and diarrhoea can occur but this is uncommon.

**Single Meningitis Vaccine** - Common side effects include local reactions (redness, warmth, swelling and hardening at the injection site) as well as mild fever and drowsiness. Uncommon effects include sickness, enlarged or inflamed glands, headache, altered skin sensation or pins and needles. If you notice problems with the baby's movement consult a doctor.

**BCG Vaccine** - A local reaction is normal, until a shallow ulcer covered with a crust form. This heals in about 12 weeks and may leave a 2-10 mm tiny scar.

**Rotavirus** – Loss of appetite and irritability is common, fever, fatigue and upset stomach are less common. Uncommon effects include crying, sleep disorder and constipation.

## **Post Vaccination**

After vaccination, if you are worried about a reaction, please contact the Centre for advice Mon. – Fri. 9.00am to 5.00pm; after hours and at weekends, you should contact your G.P. or hospital in severe cases (this would be extremely rare). Should you have had cause to contact your GP, we would appreciate a call about the nature and outcome of your visit. Please ring us on 0905 48 50 100.

## **Care Quality Commission (CQC) and Complaints**

We have been inspected and have our registration from the CQC (formerly the Healthcare Commission).

Should you have any complaints about conduct or service, please contact us first on 0905 48 50 100 and we will respond to you within 2 days (you can also request our Complaints Policy by telephone or download it from [www.childrensimmunisation.com](http://www.childrensimmunisation.com)).

We welcome any suggestions that may help us improve our service. If you wish to contact the CQC, their number is 03000 616161. A summary of the CQC inspection report will also be available from the CQC at Finsbury Tower, 103-105 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8TG.

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### **How long have you been in operation?**

We have been established for over 6 years; all patients are immunised by our doctor with our nurse assisting.

### **Are the vaccines licensed in the UK?**

Unlicensed medicines are widely used within the NHS and throughout the UK if they are prescribed by a doctor; but cannot be sold over the counter. They are brought into UK for each patient on the basis of a private prescription. The Polio, Hib/Men C and Pneumococcal Meningitis vaccines have a marketing license in the UK. The Tetanus, Tuberculosis (BCG), Diphtheria/Tetanus, and Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis do not; this means they can only be administered by a doctor.

All the vaccines are endorsed by WHO (World Health Organisation) or FDA (Food and Drug Administration). UK pharmaceutical suppliers hold a special licence to import unlicensed medicines with the approval of MHRA (Medicines & Health Regulatory Authority). Please indicate if you require a specific origin of vaccine.

### **How are they imported?**

Our system of importation ensures that the vaccines are kept between 2 and 8°C from the manufacturers to the Immunisation and Medical Centre, where they are transferred to our clinical fridge and stored according to manufacturers' recommendations. Our staff have personally inspected the exporter's/importer's facilities and they are MHRA approved.

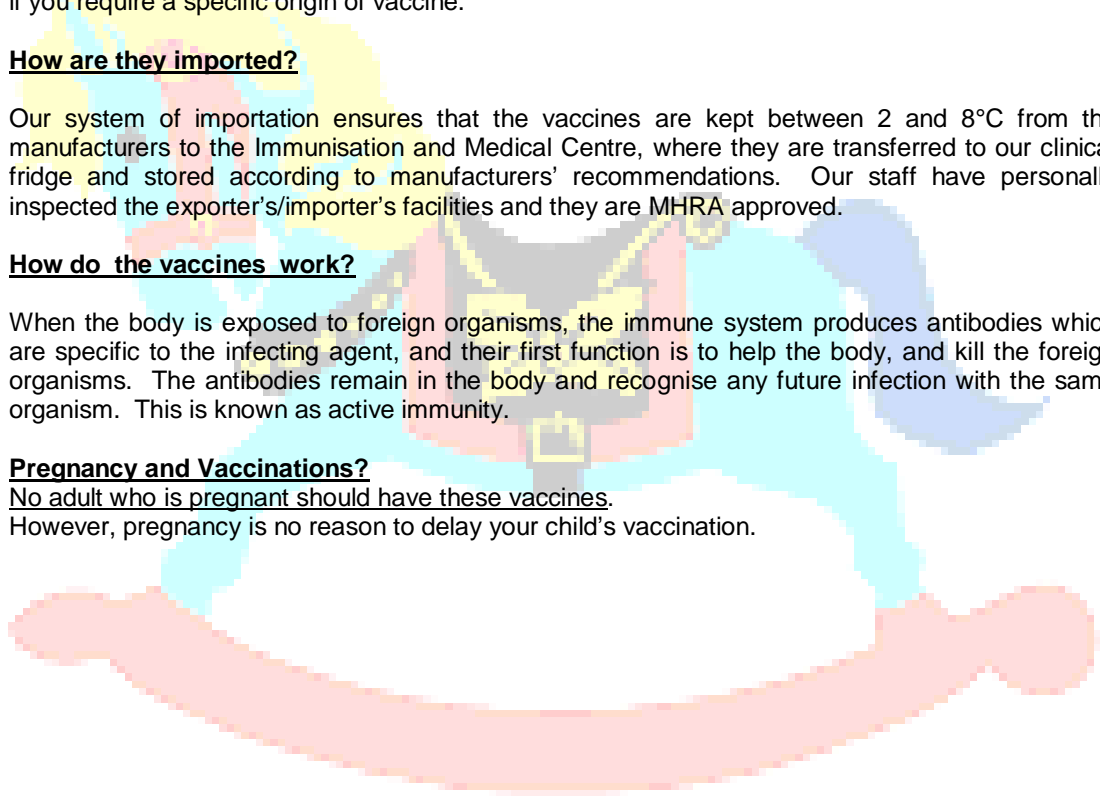
### **How do the vaccines work?**

When the body is exposed to foreign organisms, the immune system produces antibodies which are specific to the infecting agent, and their first function is to help the body, and kill the foreign organisms. The antibodies remain in the body and recognise any future infection with the same organism. This is known as active immunity.

### **Pregnancy and Vaccinations?**

No adult who is pregnant should have these vaccines.

However, pregnancy is no reason to delay your child's vaccination.



When to immunise	Vaccine	Week	Price	
<b>From 6 weeks</b>	<u>Registration Fee (once only)</u>		£50.00	
	Rotavirus (1) non-routine	<b>0</b>	£75.00	
	Polio (1)	<b>2</b>	£60.00	
	Pneumococcal Meningitis (1) (Free NHS)	<b>4</b>	£95.00	
	Hib-Men C (1) or Single Men C (1) or Hib (1)	<b>6</b>	£60.00 £95.00	
	Rotavirus (2) non-routine	<b>8</b>	£75.00	
	Polio (2)	<b>10</b>	£60.00	
	Pneumococcal Meningitis (2) (Free NHS)	<b>12</b>	£95.00	
	Hib-Men C (2) or Single Men C (2) or Hib (2)	<b>14</b>	£60.00 £95.00	
	Polio (3)	<b>16</b>	£60.00	
	Hib-Men C (3) or Single Men C (3) or Hib (3)	<b>18</b>	£60.00 £95.00	
	Diphtheria/Tetanus (1) or Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	<b>20</b>	£60.00	
	Diphtheria/Tetanus (2) or Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	<b>24</b>	£60.00	
	Diphtheria/Tetanus (2) or Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	<b>28</b>	£60.00	
	<b>Options from Birth</b> BCG	<b>32</b>	£60.00	
	Hib-Men C Booster	<b>52</b>	£60.00	
	Hepatitis B (3)		£50.00	
	<b>From 12 months</b>	Hepatitis A(2) dose (6-18 month gap)		£55.00
	<b>From 13 months</b>	Pneumococcal Meningitis (3) (Free NHS)	<b>0</b>	£95.00
Single German Measles (Rubella)		<b>4</b>	£95.00	
Single Measles		<b>10</b>	£95.00	
Single Chicken Pox		<b>16</b>	£95.00	
Single Mumps		<b>22</b>	£110.00	

## Children's Immunisation Centre

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To book an appointment please call 0905 48 50 100  
Calls are charged at 30p/min

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