

Fall School Year is Fast Approaching!

Make Sure Children's Vaccines are Up to Date



Did You Know

Approximately 30% of all deaths of children under 5 are vaccine preventable.

References

1. <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/why.htm>
2. http://www.vaccines.gov/more_info/features/five-important-reasons-to-vaccinate-your-child.html
3. <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/whatifstop.htm>
4. <http://www2.aap.org/immunization/families/whyimmunize.html>
5. <http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/encyclopedia/content.aspx?ContentTypeID=1&ContentID=4510>

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Vaccines May Ensure Children's Safety

The biggest enemy to vaccines is complacency. Often a disease becomes so rare in an area that vaccination will begin to drop. In 1974, Japan saw such low occurrences of pertussis that they stopped vaccinating children, within five years, the inoculation rate dropped from 80% to 10%. In 1979 there was an outbreak that affected 15,000 and caused 41 deaths. This is a prime example of how important vaccines are, even if it seems like they aren't needed.

As school starts back up it's vital to recognize the importance of vaccinating children. It's widely known that disease spreads in high density areas, and schools are a prime example of 'high density'. While many schools require certain vaccines for a child to attend, it's essential to help parents understand why vaccinating their children is important.

Why Vaccines are Important:

- Vaccinating can help eradicate diseases, saving future generations from experiencing them.
- Vaccines save money. Vaccinating cost a fraction of the price of the treatment for the diseases they prevent.
- While diseases such as polio are rare in the US, many countries around the world still struggle against the disease. World travel being fast and easy, it's important to vaccinate to prevent these diseases from regaining footing in the US.
- Vaccines don't only benefit the recipient; they also protect many who can't get vaccinated.
- Children are at a higher risk. Children's immune systems may not be strong enough to fight some diseases. Before vaccines, children often died from diseases such as polio and measles which we can now vaccinate against.

For more information about proper vaccination schedules and up-to-date information on which vaccinations are available visit the CDC's Immunization Schedule page:

(<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>)

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