

## Why should my child receive shots?

**A.** Immunizations (shots) protect from disease. Without shots at the right times, your child could catch diseases such as measles, hepatitis, meningitis and chickenpox from other people. Immunizations are an important part of your child's health care program.

## Where should I go to get my child's shots?

**A.** Your child's doctor or health care provider can give the immunizations your child needs. Make sure that you ask about shots at every visit. Also, as partners in Project L.O.V.E., the public health department clinics provide low cost shots. Call either the Franklin County Board of Health (614-462-3635) or Columbus Public Health (614-645-7945).

## What diseases are prevented by vaccinations?

**Hepatitis B** causes infection of the liver and can result in liver cancer or death.

**Diphtheria** can cause severe infection in the nose and throat which could lead to heart failure and even death.

**Tetanus** (lockjaw) causes muscle spasms, breathing and heart problems, or even death.

**Pertussis** (whooping cough) causes severe coughing spells that can interfere with breathing and can lead to pneumonia, seizures or even death.

**Polio** causes muscle weakness, paralysis or even death.

**Haemophilus influenzae type B** (Hib) causes meningitis (infection around the spinal cord and brain) and other severe infections.

**Measles** causes high fever, rash and could lead to other serious problems.

**Mumps** causes painful swelling of cheek and jaw areas.

**Rubella** (German measles) can cause damage to an unborn baby if the mother catches it in the early months of pregnancy.

**Varicella Zoster** (chickenpox) is a rash disease that can lead to a severe skin infection, pneumonia, brain damage or even death.

**Hepatitis A** is a serious liver disease and can cause severe stomach pains, diarrhea and sometimes death.

**Rotavirus** causes severe diarrhea, often accompanied by vomiting and fever, in babies and young children.

**Pneumococcal** infection can cause meningitis, blood infections, ear infections, pneumonia, deafness, brain damage and death.

**Meningococcal disease** can cause lose of arms or legs, deafness, problems with the nervous system, seizures or stroke, mental retardation or even death.

**Human Papillomavirus** is the most common sexually transmitted virus in the United States and can cause cervical cancer in woman. Cervical cancer is the 2nd leading cause of cancer deaths among women around the world.

## About Project L.O.V.E.

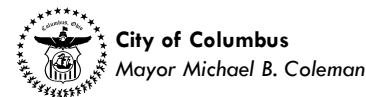
Project L.O.V.E. (Love Our Kids... Vaccinate Early!) is a unique partnership between Franklin County hospitals, area physicians, City of Columbus and Franklin County Health Departments, local businesses and community organizations, whose goal is to assure that Franklin County 2-year-olds are fully immunized.

## Immunizations...

### Building Blocks for Healthy Tots

Immunizations, along with regular doctor check-ups, are important building blocks towards your child's good health. Childhood diseases like measles, hepatitis, meningitis and whooping cough can be prevented by fully vaccinating your child by age 2.

## Funded in part by...



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immunizations...



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**Q What can happen if my child doesn't receive shots?**

**A.** Vaccine-preventable diseases can make your baby very ill or cause more serious problems such as hearing loss, brain damage, or even death. Getting immunizations on time protects your child.

**Q What if my child is sick when it is time for shots?**

**A.** Ask your doctor about immunizations at every visit, even if your child is taking antibiotics or has a minor illness such as a mild fever, a cold or diarrhea. It is O.K. for shots to be given at these times.

**Q When should my child get shots?**

**A.** Your child needs a series of immunizations before turning 2 years old. Most doctors recommend the schedule in this brochure. The schedule can change, so it is important to always review which shots your child needs at any visit.

**Q What if my child gets behind in getting shots?**

**A.** It's never too late to get your child caught up on immunizations if he or she has fallen behind. The best way to make sure that your child gets all immunizations on time is to make regular visits to your child's doctor or health care provider.

**Childhood Immunization Schedule**

	Birth	2 months	4 months	6 months	12-15 months	4-6 years	11-18 years
<b>Hep-B</b> Hepatitis B	✓	✓		✓			
<b>DTap/Tdap</b> Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Hib</b> Haemophilus Influenza type B		✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>IPV</b> Polio		✓	✓	✓		✓	
<b>PCV7</b> Pneumococcal conjugate		✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>MMR</b> Measles, Mumps, Rubella					✓	✓	
<b>Chickenpox</b> Varicella					✓	✓	
<b>Rota</b> Rotavirus		✓	✓	✓			
<b>Hep-A</b> Hepatitis A					◊		
<b>MCV4</b> Meningococcal							✓
<b>HPV</b> Human Papilloma-virus							♥
<b>Flu</b> Influenza					Every year beginning at 6 months of age		

**Q What are the risks?**

**A.** Most people have no serious reactions to immunizations. Your child may have soreness, redness or swelling where the shot was given. The child also may act fussy or sleepy. Your doctor may recommend that you give your child fever reducing medicine such as baby acetaminophen to help increase comfort. The risk of not immunizing your child is far greater than the very low risk of a serious reaction or pain from a shot.

*Get your child's shots on time and keep his or her immunization record up-to-date and in a safe place. Remember, immunizations and regular doctor check-ups are important to your child's good health.*

**Please use this schedule to track your child's immunizations.** A catch-up schedule is available if your child is not on time. Contact your child's doctor or visit [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines) for more information.

✓ These check marks show at what ages and what immunizations a child is recommended to receive.

◊ Hepatitis A is a two dose series spaced 6 months apart and is given to all children at 12 months of age.

♥ HPV is FOR GIRLS ONLY. HPV is given as a 3 dose series at a 0, 2, 6 month spacing schedule.