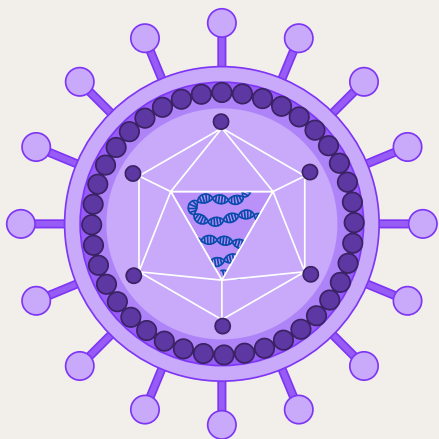


Protect Me From...

Varicella (Chickenpox)



CHICKENPOX VIRUS

CAUSES ITCHY RASH, FEVER, TIREDNESS, LOSS OF APPETITE, HEADACHE



Disease Information

WHAT HAPPENS

Chickenpox causes an itchy rash that usually lasts about a week. It can lead to skin infections, pneumonia, inflammation of the blood vessels, swelling of the brain and/or spinal cord coering, and infections of the bloodstrem, bone, or joints. Some people who get chickenpox can get a painful rash years later called “shingles”

WHY GET VACCINATED

Usually mild, but it can be serious in infants under 12 months of age, adolescents, adults, pregnant women, and people with weakened immune system. Some people get so sick they need to be hospitalized and although rare, can die.

HOW IT SPREADS

Highly contagious spread by direct contact, secretions from respiratory tract

Vaccine Information

HOW IT WORKS

Most people who are vaccinated with 2 doses of varicella vaccine will be protected for life. The vaccine uses a live weakened virus to stimulate an immune response in the body without causing the idsease

VACCINE SCHEDULE

Children need 2 doses of varicella vaccine, usually:

- First dose: age 12 through 15 months
- Second dose: age 4 through 6 years

Older children, adolescents, and adults also need 2 doses of varicella vaccine if they are not already immune to chickenpox. Varicella vaccine may be give

POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS



Side effects include sore arm from injection, fever, or rash of vaccine site. Serious reactions occur rarely such as pneumonia, infection or brain and spinal cord, or seizures

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I-LED

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TALK WITH YOUR DOCTOR

If you/your child:

- Had an allergic reaction after a dose of varicella vaccine, or any severe, life-threatening allergies
- Are pregnant or think you might be pregnant
- Have a weakened immune system
- Is taking salicylates (such as aspirin)
- Recently had transfusion
- Have tuberculosis
- Have gotten any other vaccines in the past 4 weeks



**MORE
INFORMATION
FROM THE
CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL OF
PENNSYLVANIA**



**PLEASE FILL OUT A
SHORT SURVEY TO
HELP US IMPROVE**

FAQ

What is chickenpox?

- A contagious viral illness that causes an itchy blistering rash and fever.

What does the vaccine do?

- It protects against chickenpox and helps prevent severe illness and complications.

Who should get it?

- Children, teens, and adults who never had chickenpox or were not vaccinated

Is it safe?

- Yes. Side effects are usually mild, like arm soreness or low fever.

Can it cause chickenpox?

- No. Rarely, a mild rash may occur, but not full chickenpox.

Who should not get it?

- Pregnant individuals or people with severely weakened immune systems should talk to a healthcare provider first.

Why is it important?

- Vaccination prevents serious complications and protects vulnerable people.