



# It's Wise to Immunize

Vaccines protect you, your children, and others from getting many infectious diseases. The disease smallpox has been eliminated due to the success of vaccines for it.

## VACCINES SAVE LIVES

- Measles vaccines saved more than 56 million lives worldwide in the last 20 years.
- Childhood vaccines prevent 4 million deaths worldwide every year.
- Vaccination against tetanus contributed to a 95% reduction in new born infant deaths around the world in the last 30 years.

## THE BENEFITS OUTWEIGH THE RISKS

- Like any medicine, there may be minor side effects, such as a slight fever, a rash, or soreness at the site of injection.
- Very rarely, people have an allergic reaction after getting a vaccine. Tell your healthcare provider of any health problems and allergies you have.
- Egg protein from chicken eggs is found in vaccines for flu and yellow fever. Now, anyone with an egg allergy can safely get a flu vaccine, but should not get yellow fever vaccine.

## ACTION STEP

Get the most recent schedules of vaccines for children and adults from: [cdc.gov/vaccines](http://cdc.gov/vaccines) or from 1-800-232-4636. Keep a record of vaccines you and your children get.