

Reliable Sources of Immunization Information

Where to go to find answers to your questions

Websites

American Academy of Pediatrics Immunization Initiatives

<http://www2.aap.org/immunization/>

Provides comprehensive immunization information for parents and health professionals.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) For Parents: Vaccines for Your Children

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/index.html

Provides immunization information specifically for parents. The information can be viewed based on your child's age.

Immunization Action Coalition

www.vaccineinformation.org

Educational pieces for parents including resources on vaccine safety concerns, personal testimonies, and immunization information by age groups.

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Immunization Program

www.health.state.mn.us/immunize

Provides information on child, adolescent, adult immunization schedules, policy, laws, and the diseases vaccines prevent. You can also read stories from Minnesota parents about the importance of immunizations:

www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/immunize/stories/index.html.

National Network for Immunization Information (NNii)

www.nnii.org

Offers current, science-based, extensively reviewed information on immunizations. This site notes that it receives no funding from pharmaceutical companies.

Vaccines.gov

U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS)

www.vaccines.gov

Easy-to-understand information to help consumers make informed decisions about immunizations.

Vaccine Education Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

www.chop.edu/service/vaccine-education-center/home.html

Provides facts about each childhood vaccine, how and why vaccines work, who recommends them, and more. This site notes that it receives no funding from pharmaceutical companies.

Videos

Parents Magazine videos

Ari Brown, MD, FAAP, collaborated with *Parents* magazine to create these two parent education videos:

The Vaccine Schedule (www.parents.com/videos/v/75585672/the-vaccine-schedule.htm), which answers the question "Should parents follow a strict vaccine schedule or is there room for flexibility?"

Vaccines for Babies and Older Kids (www.parents.com/videos/v/75585933/vaccines-for-babies-and-older-kids.htm) which answers the question "Which vaccines do kids need and why are they necessary?"

Vaccine-Preventable Disease – Family Stories

www.pkids.org/im_videos.php

This site contains short videos about families who were affected by vaccine-preventable diseases, produced by the non-profit organization Pkids.

Vaccines: Separating Fact from Fear Vaccines and Your Baby

Produced by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. These videos provide answers to parent's questions about vaccines. Also available in Spanish. View online at www.chop.edu/service/vaccine-education-center/order-educational-materials/#viewable-resources.

*This is just a sampling of reliable immunization resources. Visit the Minnesota Department of Health Immunization Program website at www.health.state.mn.us/immunize or talk to your health care provider for additional information.

Publications

Clear Answers & Smart Advice About Your Baby's Shots

www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2068.pdf

By Ari Brown, MD, FAAP. This 6-page publication gives easy-to-understand answers from a pediatrician to common immunization questions.

Do Vaccines Cause That? A Guide for Evaluating Vaccine Safety Concerns

By Martin G. Meyers, MD, and Diego Pineda. I4PH Press.

To purchase this book, visit your local bookstore or go to www.immunizationinfo.org/bookstore.

Parent's Guide to Childhood Immunizations

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/parents-guide/default.htm

A 64-page booklet from CDC's National Immunization Program about childhood diseases and the vaccines that prevent them. You can read the guide online, download a printer-friendly version, or order a printed booklet.

Plain Talk About Childhood Immunizations

An online immunization booklet for parents, available in English and Spanish from Seattle and King Co. Public Health, WA. Download at

www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/communicable/immunization/plaintalk.aspx or call the Family Health Hotline at 1-800-322-2588.

Vaccine Information Statements (VISs)

These fact sheets, produced by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) explain the benefits and risks of vaccines to vaccine recipients, their parents, or their legal representatives. Federal law requires that VISs be handed out before certain vaccine doses are given. The VISs are available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/index.html or from your health care provider. Also available in many foreign languages at www.immunize.org/vis.

Vaccine Safety for Parents

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/flyers-brochures.htm#vacsafe

A flyer from CDC's National Immunization Program with easy-to-understand explanations of common vaccine safety concerns.

Vaccines and Your Child: Separating Fact from Fiction, 2011

By Paul Offit, MD, and Charlotte Moser, Columbia University Press. This book answers questions about the science and safety of modern vaccines. To purchase, visit your local bookstore or <http://cup.columbia.edu/book/978-0-231-15307-2/vaccines-and-your-child>.

Mobile Apps

Immunization Apps

www.immunize.org/resources/apps.asp

The Immunization Action Coalition has put together a list of mobile apps that offer immunization information for health care providers and the public.

Phone Numbers

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Immunization Information Hotline

Toll-free number for questions about vaccine-preventable diseases and immunizations.

1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)

(Note: This line is for English and Spanish)

TTY: 1-800-232-6348

Minnesota Department of Health Immunization Program

A toll-free number for health care professionals and consumers who have Minnesota-specific immunization questions.

1-800-657-3970 or 651-201-5503.

Adapted from the Immunization Action Coalition's website.