

# DTaP-Polio-Hib Vaccine

► Combined Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whooping Cough), Polio, and Hib (*Haemophilus influenzae* type b) Vaccine



*"Vaccination is good protection"*

This vaccine protects your children against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, and Hib infections and their complications.

## DISEASES

Diphtheria	Tetanus	Whooping Cough	Polio	Severe Hib infections
<b>Diphtheria causes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe sore throat</li> <li>High fever</li> <li>Respiratory and heart problems</li> </ul>	<b>Tetanus causes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jaw spasms</li> <li>Vocal chord spasms</li> <li>Full-body muscle spasms</li> </ul>	<b>Whooping cough causes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Violent coughing spells lasting months</li> <li>Difficulty eating, drinking, and breathing</li> </ul>	<b>Polio causes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever</li> <li>Nausea and vomiting</li> <li>General discomfort</li> <li>Paralysis of arms and legs (1% of cases)</li> </ul>	<b>Severe Hib infections causes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Epiglottitis (severe swelling of the throat)</li> <li>Pneumonia</li> <li>Meningitis</li> </ul>
<b>Possible complications of diphtheria include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paralysis</li> <li>Death (5% to 10% of cases)</li> </ul>	<b>Possible complications of tetanus include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Death (10% of cases)</li> </ul>	<b>Possible complications of whooping cough include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pneumonia</li> <li>Seizures</li> <li>Brain damage (1 case per 11,000)</li> <li>Death (0.4% among babies)</li> </ul>	<b>Possible complications of polio include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respiratory problems</li> <li>Permanent paralysis (nearly 50% of hospitalized cases)</li> <li>Death (5% of hospitalized cases)</li> </ul>	<b>Possible complications of severe Hib infections include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deafness</li> <li>Mental retardation</li> <li>Death (5% of meningitis cases)</li> </ul>

## The Vaccine

Vaccination is the best way to protect your child against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, and severe Hib infections. One vaccine can protect your children against all these diseases, but multiple doses are needed to ensure the best protection possible.

Children receive their four doses of the DTaP-Polio-Hib vaccine at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, and 18 months, and their DTaP-Polio vaccine between 4 and 6 years old.

These vaccines are safe. Inform your health care provider if your child has an allergy to any vaccine.

## EFFECTS

Possible side effects	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A few hours after vaccination, children may experience swelling, tenderness and redness around the injection site (5% to 50% of cases, depending on the number of doses). The whole arm may swell (2% of cases after the 5th dose). A small bump may appear at the injection site but will disappear over the next few weeks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply a cold, damp cloth to the injection site.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children may run a fever (15% to 20% of cases). A high fever may cause seizures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give a fever medication such as acetaminophen if your child's temperature is 38.5°C or over.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other reactions may occur, such as vomiting, irritability, drowsiness, and, on rare occasions, persistent crying.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See a health care provider depending on the seriousness of symptoms.</li> </ul>
On rare occasions, serious arm pain and weakness which could last for several weeks have been reported (0.5 to 1 case per 100,000 doses).	
Severe allergic reactions are rare.	

Should a severe allergic reaction occur, it would begin immediately and the person who gave the vaccine will be able to treat it. That's why you should stay on site for at least 15 minutes after the vaccination.

For more information, ask the person who gave you the vaccine or another health care provider.



Health Canada  
Santé Canada

First Nations and Inuit Health Branch  
Ontario Region  
January 2006

Canada