

## ► Polio Vaccine



*"Vaccination is good protection"*

This vaccine protects you against polio and its complications.

### DISEASES

#### Polio causes:

- Fever
- Nausea and vomiting
- General discomfort
- Paralysis of arms and legs (1% of cases)

#### Possible complications of polio include:

- Breathing problems
- Permanent paralysis (nearly 50% of hospitalized cases)
- Death (5% of hospitalized cases)

## The Vaccine

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself against polio. The vaccine is given to children 2 months or over and is usually combined with diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccines. This vaccine is also given to people of all ages who will be traveling to countries where there is a risk of exposure to polio.

Polio vaccine is safe. In most cases, it does not cause any undesirable reactions.

Inform your health care provider if your child has an allergy to any vaccine.

### EFFECTS

#### Possible side effects

- You may sometimes develop swelling and redness around the injection site.

#### What to do

- Apply a cold, damp cloth to the injection site.

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.

