

A Guide for Patients and Families

# Child Vaccination Advice



## Overview



Vaccines, like any other medication can have some reactions. Severe reactions like swelling on lips and eyes, seizures, breathlessness, loss of consciousness are rare but can happen.

Therefore, it is important for you to remain at the immunisation waiting area for 15 to 30 minutes after your child's vaccination.

This is to ensure that your child gets immediate treatment should he/she experience any severe reactions.

If your child is well and comfortable after 15 to 30 minutes, please proceed to the registration counter for payment and for the next appointment to be arranged.

These are some common vaccine reactions and measures you can take to help your child over the next few days:

### **Local Reactions (Redness, Swelling, Pain) at the Injection Site:**



- Place a cool cloth over the sore area for comfort.
- Give paracetamol according to the instruction on the bottle to ease the discomfort.

## Fever



- Monitor temperature regularly (fever is 37.5 °C and above).
- Offer extra fluids (e.g. breast milk, formula, water).
- Dress your child in light clothing.
- Bathe your child in lukewarm water.
- Give paracetamol according to the instruction on the bottle.

## Irritability/Fussiness



- Usually disappears over 24 to 48 hours and do not require treatment.

## A Small Lump at the Injection Site



- May persist for some weeks/months. No treatment is required.

## Complication (if any)



Consult a doctor when:

- Medication does not reduce fever.
- Persistent fever for more than 24 hours.
- Child is less active than usual.
- Persistent crying.
- Seizures (fits) - some children are more likely to get seizures when experiencing a high fever.
- The redness or swelling at the injection site is getting worse.
- Experiencing abdominal pain or cramping, pulling legs up to their chest, bloated abdominal, vomiting and/or having blood in the stool especially after Rotavirus vaccination.



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