

# TYPHOID VACCINE (TYPHERIX AND TYPHIM VI)

## What is Typhoid fever

Typhoid (typhoid fever) is a life-threatening illness caused by the bacterium *Salmonella Typhi* (S. Typhi).

Typhoid is spread by eating food or drinking beverages that have been handled by a person who is infected with S. Typhi or is a carrier of S. Typhi. It is spread when drinking water or washing food from sewage contaminated with S. Typhi.

Typhoid causes high fever, weakness, stomach pains, headache, loss of appetite, and sometimes a flat, rose-coloured rash. If untreated, typhoid may even be fatal.

## Who should be vaccinated against Typhoid:

- Travelers to parts of the world where typhoid is common.
- People in close contact with a typhoid carrier.

Do take note that the typhoid vaccine is not 100% effective and is not a substitute for being careful about what you eat or drink.

## Schedule for Typhoid vaccination:

There are two brands of Typhoid vaccine available.

- **Typherix** is indicated for adults and children older than 2 years of age.
  - One dose given at least 2 weeks before travel provides protection.
- **Typhim VI** is indicated for adults and children older than 5 years of age.
  - One dose given 15 days to 3 weeks before travel provides protection.

A booster dose is needed every 3 years for people who remain at risk.

## Who should not be vaccinated against Typhoid:

People who had a severe allergic reaction to a previous dose of typhoid vaccine should not get another dose.

## Side effects that may occur after Typhoid injection vaccine:

Side effects after getting typhoid vaccine are mild, with fever, headache, and redness or swelling at the site of the injection. Signs of a serious allergic reaction can include difficulty in breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, paleness, weakness, a fast heartbeat or dizziness. If these unusual reactions occur, see a doctor right away.

## References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
2. Product Information Leaflet: Typherix