

Your Baby at 6 Months



Child's Name _____

Child's Age _____

Today's Date _____

Milestones matter! How your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves offers important clues about his or her development. Check the milestones your child has reached by 6 months. Take this with you and talk with your child's doctor at every well-child visit about the milestones your child has reached and what to expect next.

What Most Babies Do by this Age:

Social/Emotional

- Knows familiar faces and begins to know if someone is a stranger
- Likes to play with others, especially parents
- Responds to other people's emotions and often seems happy
- Likes to look at self in a mirror

Language/Communication

- Responds to sounds by making sounds
- Strings vowels together when babbling ("ah," "eh," "oh") and likes taking turns with parent while making sounds
- Responds to own name
- Makes sounds to show joy and displeasure
- Begins to say consonant sounds (jabbering with "m," "b")

Cognitive (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- Looks around at things nearby
- Brings things to mouth
- Shows curiosity about things and tries to get things that are out of reach
- Begins to pass things from one hand to the other

Movement/Physical Development

- Rolls over in both directions (front to back, back to front)
- Begins to sit without support
- When standing, supports weight on legs and might bounce
- Rocks back and forth, sometimes crawling backward before moving forward

You Know Your Child Best.

Act early if you have concerns about the way your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, or moves, or if your child:

- Is missing milestones
- Doesn't try to get things that are in reach
- Shows no affection for caregivers
- Doesn't respond to sounds around him
- Has difficulty getting things to mouth
- Doesn't make vowel sounds ("ah", "eh", "oh")
- Doesn't roll over in either direction
- Doesn't laugh or make squealing sounds
- Seems very stiff, with tight muscles
- Seems very floppy, like a rag doll

Tell your child's doctor or nurse if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay and ask for a developmental screening.

If you or the doctor is still concerned

1. Ask for a referral to a specialist and,
2. Call your state or territory's early intervention program to find out if your child can get services to help. Learn more and find the number at cdc.gov/FindEI.

For more information, go to cdc.gov/Concerned.

DON'T WAIT.
Acting early can make a real difference!



www.cdc.gov/ActEarly
1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)



Download CDC's
Milestone Tracker App



Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Help Your Baby Learn and Grow



You can help your baby learn and grow. Talk, read, sing, and play together every day. Below are some activities to enjoy with your 6-month-old baby today.

What You Can Do for Your 6-Month-Old:

- Play on the floor with your baby every day.
- Learn to read your baby's moods. If he's happy, keep doing what you are doing. If he's upset, take a break and comfort your baby.
- Show your baby how to comfort herself when she's upset. She may suck on her fingers to self soothe.
- Use "reciprocal" play—when he smiles, you smile; when he makes sounds, you copy them.
- Repeat your child's sounds and say simple words with those sounds. For example, if your child says "bah," say "bottle" or "book."
- Read books to your child every day. Praise her when she babbles and "reads" too.
- When your baby looks at something, point to it and talk about it.
- When he drops a toy on the floor, pick it up and give it back. This game helps him learn cause and effect.
- Read colorful picture books to your baby.
- Point out new things to your baby and name them.
- Show your baby bright pictures in a magazine and name them.
- Hold your baby up while she sits or support her with pillows. Let her look around and give her toys to look at while she balances.
- Put your baby on his tummy or back and put toys just out of reach. Encourage him to roll over to reach the toys.

Milestones adapted from CARING FOR YOUR BABY AND YOUNG CHILD: BIRTH TO AGE 5, Fifth Edition, edited by Steven Shelov and Tanya Remer Altmann © 1991, 1993, 1998, 2004, 2009 by the American Academy of Pediatrics and BRIGHT FUTURES: GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH SUPERVISION OF INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADOLESCENTS, Third Edition, edited by Joseph Hagan, Jr., Judith S. Shaw, and Paula M. Duncan, 2008, Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics.

This milestone checklist is not a substitute for a standardized, validated developmental screening tool.

www.cdc.gov/ActEarly | 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)



Learn the Signs. Act Early.



Bright Futures Parent Handout 6 Month Visit

Here are some suggestions from Bright Futures experts that may be of value to your family.

Feeding Your Baby

- Most babies have doubled their birth weight.
- Your baby's growth will slow down.
- If you are still breastfeeding, that's great! Continue as long as you both like.
- If you are formula feeding, use an iron-fortified formula.
- You may begin to feed your baby solid food when your baby is ready.
- Some of the signs your baby is ready for solids
 - Opens mouth for the spoon.
 - Sits with support.
 - Good head and neck control.
 - Interest in foods you eat.

Starting New Foods

- Introduce new foods one at a time.
 - Iron-fortified cereal
- Good sources of iron include
 - Red meat
- Introduce fruits and vegetables after your baby eats iron-fortified cereal or pureed meats well.
 - Offer 1–2 tablespoons of solid food 2–3 times per day.
- Avoid feeding your baby too much by following the baby's signs of fullness.
 - Leaning back
 - Turning away
- Do not force your baby to eat or finish foods.
 - It may take 10–15 times of giving your baby a food to try before she will like it.
- Avoid foods that can cause allergies—peanuts, tree nuts, fish, and shellfish.
- To prevent choking
 - Only give your baby very soft, small bites of finger foods.
 - Keep small objects and plastic bags away from your baby.

NUTRITION AND FEEDING

How Your Family Is Doing

- Call on others for help.
- Encourage your partner to help care for your baby.
- Ask us about helpful resources if you are alone.
- Invite friends over or join a parent group.
- Choose a mature, trained, and responsible babysitter or caregiver.
- You can talk with us about your child care choices.

FAMILY FUNCTIONING

Healthy Teeth

- Many babies begin to cut teeth.
- Use a soft cloth or toothbrush to clean each tooth with water only as it comes in.
- Ask us about the need for fluoride.
- Do not give a bottle in bed.
- Do not prop the bottle.
- Have regular times for your baby to eat. Do not let him eat all day.

ORAL HEALTH

Your Baby's Development

- Place your baby so she is sitting up and can look around.
- Talk with your baby by copying the sounds your baby makes.
- Look at and read books together.
- Play games such as peekaboo, patty-cake, and so big.
- Offer active play with mirrors, floor gyms, and colorful toys to hold.
- If your baby is fussy, give her safe toys to hold and put in her mouth and make sure she is getting regular naps and playtimes.
- Put your baby to bed when she is sleepy but still awake.

INFANT DEVELOPMENT

Crib/Playpen

- Lower the crib mattress all the way when your baby begins to stand.
- Use a crib with slats close together—2³/₈ inches apart or less.
- When your baby is in the crib, make sure the drop side is up.
- Don't use loose or soft bedding.
- Use a mesh playpen with weaves less than 1/4 inches apart.

Safety

- Use a rear-facing car safety seat in the back seat in all vehicles, even for very short trips.
- Never put your baby in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag.
- Don't leave your baby alone in the tub or high places such as changing tables, beds, or sofas.
- While in the kitchen, keep your baby in a high chair or playpen.
- Do not use a baby walker.
- Place gates on stairs.
- Close doors to rooms where your baby could be hurt, like the bathroom.
- Prevent burns by setting your hot water heater so the temperature at the faucet is 120°F or lower.
- Turn pot handles inward on the stove.
- Do not leave hot irons or hair care products plugged in.
- Never leave your baby alone near water or in bathwater, even in a bath seat or ring.
 - Always be close enough to touch your baby.
- Lock up poisons, medicines, and cleaning supplies; call Poison Help if your baby eats them.

SAFETY

What to Expect at Your Baby's 9 Month Visit

We will talk about

- Disciplining your baby
- Introducing new foods and establishing a routine
- Helping your baby learn
- Car seat safety
- Safety at home

Poison Help: 1-800-222-1222

Child safety seat inspection:
1-866-SEATCHECK; seatcheck.org



American Academy of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

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Ages & Stages Questionnaires®

9 Month Questionnaire

9 months 0 days through 9 months 30 days



Please provide the following information. Use black or blue ink only and print legibly when completing this form.

Date ASQ completed: _____

Baby's information

Baby's first name: _____ Middle initial: _____ Baby's last name: _____

Baby's date of birth: _____ If baby was born 3 or more weeks prematurely, # of weeks premature: _____ Baby's gender: Male Female

Person filling out questionnaire

First name: _____ Middle initial: _____ Last name: _____

Street address: _____ Relationship to baby: Parent Guardian Teacher Child care provider
 Grandparent or other relative Foster parent Other: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ ZIP/Postal code: _____

Country: _____ Home telephone number: _____ Other telephone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Names of people assisting in questionnaire completion: _____

Program Information

Baby ID #: _____ Age at administration in months and days: _____

Program ID #: _____ If premature, adjusted age in months and days: _____

Program name: _____

On the following pages are questions about activities babies may do. Your baby may have already done some of the activities described here, and there may be some your baby has not begun doing yet. For each item, please fill in the circle that indicates whether your baby is doing the activity regularly, sometimes, or not yet.

Important Points to Remember:

- Try each activity with your baby before marking a response.
- Make completing this questionnaire a game that is fun for you and your baby.
- Make sure your baby is rested and fed.
- Please return this questionnaire by _____.



Notes:

COMMUNICATION

	YES	SOMETIMES	NOT YET	
1. Does your baby make sounds like "da," "ga," "ka," and "ba"?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
2. If you copy the sounds your baby makes, does your baby repeat the same sounds back to you?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
3. Does your baby make two similar sounds like "ba-ba," "da-da," or "ga-ga"? (The sounds do not need to mean anything.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
4. If you ask your baby to, does he play at least one nursery game even if you don't show her the activity yourself (such as "bye-bye," "Peek-a-boo," "clap your hands," "So Big")?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
5. Does your baby follow one simple command, such as "Come here," "Give it to me," or "Put it back," <i>without</i> your using gestures?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
6. Does your baby say three words, such as "Mama," "Dada," and "Baba"? (A "word" is a sound or sounds your baby says consistently to mean someone or something.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___

COMMUNICATION TOTAL _____

GROSS MOTOR

	YES	SOMETIMES	NOT YET	
1. If you hold both hands just to balance your baby, does she support her own weight while standing?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
				
2. When sitting on the floor, does your baby sit up straight for several minutes <i>without</i> using his hands for support?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
				

GROSS MOTOR (continued)

YES SOMETIMES NOT YET

3. When you stand your baby next to furniture or the crib rail, does she hold on without leaning her chest against the furniture for support?



4. While holding onto furniture, does your baby bend down and pick up a toy from the floor and then return to a standing position?



5. While holding onto furniture, does your baby lower himself with control (without falling or flopping down)?

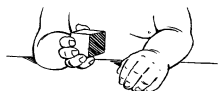
6. Does your baby walk beside furniture while holding on with only one hand?

GROSS MOTOR TOTAL _____

FINE MOTOR

YES SOMETIMES NOT YET

1. Does your baby pick up a small toy with only one hand?



 2. Does your baby *successfully* pick up a crumb or Cheerio by using her thumb and all of her fingers in a raking motion? (If she already picks up a crumb or Cheerio, mark "yes" for this item.)


 3. Does your baby pick up a small toy with the *tips* of his thumb and fingers? (You should see a space between the toy and his palm.)


4. After one or two tries, does your baby pick up a piece of string with her first finger and thumb? (The string may be attached to a toy.)



 5. Does your baby pick up a crumb or Cheerio with the *tips* of his thumb and a finger? He may rest his arm or hand on the table while doing it.

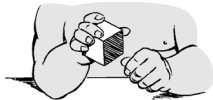
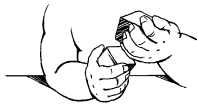

 _____*

6. Does your baby put a small toy down, without dropping it, and then take her hand off the toy?


FINE MOTOR TOTAL _____

**If Fine Motor Item 5 is marked "yes" or "sometimes," mark Fine Motor Item 2 "yes."*

PROBLEM SOLVING

	YES	SOMETIMES	NOT YET	
1. Does your baby pass a toy back and forth from one hand to the other?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
				
2. Does your baby pick up two small toys, one in each hand, and hold onto them for about 1 minute?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
				
3. When holding a toy in his hand, does your baby bang it against another toy on the table?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
				
4. While holding a small toy in each hand, does your baby clap the toys together (like "Pat-a-cake")?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
5. Does your baby poke at or try to get a crumb or Cheerio that is inside a clear bottle (such as a plastic soda-pop bottle or baby bottle)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
6. After watching you hide a small toy under a piece of paper or cloth, does your baby find it? (Be sure the toy is completely hidden.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
PROBLEM SOLVING TOTAL				___

PERSONAL-SOCIAL

	YES	SOMETIMES	NOT YET	
1. While your baby is on her back, does she put her foot in her mouth?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
				
2. Does your baby drink water, juice, or formula from a cup while you hold it?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
3. Does your baby feed himself a cracker or a cookie?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
4. When you hold out your hand and ask for her toy, does your baby offer it to you even if she doesn't let go of it? (If she already lets go of the toy into your hand, mark "yes" for this item.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
5. When you dress your baby, does he push his arm through a sleeve once his arm is started in the hole of the sleeve?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
6. When you hold out your hand and ask for her toy, does your baby let go of it into your hand?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	___
PERSONAL-SOCIAL TOTAL				___

OVERALL

Parents and providers may use the space below for additional comments.

1. Does your baby use both hands and both legs equally well? If no, explain:

YES

NO

2. When you help your baby stand, are his feet flat on the surface most of the time?
If no, explain:

YES

NO

3. Do you have concerns that your baby is too quiet or does not make sounds like other babies? If yes, explain:

YES

NO

4. Does either parent have a family history of childhood deafness or hearing impairment? If yes, explain:

YES

NO

5. Do you have concerns about your baby's vision? If yes, explain:

YES

NO

6. Has your baby had any medical problems in the last several months? If yes, explain:

YES

NO

OVERALL *(continued)*

7. Do you have any concerns about your baby's behavior? If yes, explain:

YES

NO

8. Does anything about your baby worry you? If yes, explain:

YES

NO



9 Month ASQ-3 Information Summary

9 months 0 days through
9 months 30 days

Baby's name: _____ Date ASQ completed: _____

Baby's ID #: _____ Date of birth: _____

Administering program/provider: _____ Was age adjusted for prematurity when selecting questionnaire? Yes No

1. SCORE AND TRANSFER TOTALS TO CHART BELOW: See ASQ-3 User's Guide for details, including how to adjust scores if item responses are missing. Score each item (YES = 10, SOMETIMES = 5, NOT YET = 0). Add item scores, and record each area total. In the chart below, transfer the total scores, and fill in the circles corresponding with the total scores.

Area	Cutoff	Total Score	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
Communication	13.97		●	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Gross Motor	17.82		●	●	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Fine Motor	31.32		●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Problem Solving	28.72		●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Personal-Social	18.91		●	●	●	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

2. TRANSFER OVERALL RESPONSES: Bolded uppercase responses require follow-up. See ASQ-3 User's Guide, Chapter 6.

- | | | | |
|--|---------------|--|---------------|
| 1. Uses both hands and both legs equally well?
Comments: | Yes NO | 5. Concerns about vision?
Comments: | YES No |
| 2. Feet are flat on the surface most of the time?
Comments: | Yes NO | 6. Any medical problems?
Comments: | YES No |
| 3. Concerns about not making sounds?
Comments: | YES No | 7. Concerns about behavior?
Comments: | YES No |
| 4. Family history of hearing impairment?
Comments: | YES No | 8. Other concerns?
Comments: | YES No |

3. ASQ SCORE INTERPRETATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR FOLLOW-UP: You must consider total area scores, overall responses, and other considerations, such as opportunities to practice skills, to determine appropriate follow-up.

If the baby's total score is in the area, it is above the cutoff, and the baby's development appears to be on schedule.
 If the baby's total score is in the area, it is close to the cutoff. Provide learning activities and monitor.
 If the baby's total score is in the area, it is below the cutoff. Further assessment with a professional may be needed.

4. FOLLOW-UP ACTION TAKEN: Check all that apply.

- Provide activities and rescreen in _____ months.
- Share results with primary health care provider.
- Refer for (circle all that apply) hearing, vision, and/or behavioral screening.
- Refer to primary health care provider or other community agency (specify reason): _____
- Refer to early intervention/early childhood special education.
- No further action taken at this time
- Other (specify): _____

5. OPTIONAL: Transfer item responses (Y = YES, S = SOMETIMES, N = NOT YET, X = response missing).

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Communication						
Gross Motor						
Fine Motor						
Problem Solving						
Personal-Social						

Your Child's First Vaccines: What You Need to Know

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See www.immunize.org/vis

Hojas de información sobre vacunas están disponibles en español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite www.immunize.org/vis

The vaccines included on this statement are likely to be given at the same time during infancy and early childhood. There are separate Vaccine Information Statements for other vaccines that are also routinely recommended for young children (measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, rotavirus, influenza, and hepatitis A).

Your child is getting these vaccines today:

DTaP Hib Hepatitis B Polio PCV13

(Provider: Check appropriate boxes.)

1 Why get vaccinated?

Vaccines can prevent disease. Most vaccine-preventable diseases are much less common than they used to be, but some of these diseases still occur in the United States. **When fewer babies get vaccinated, more babies get sick.**

Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis

- Diphtheria (D) can lead to difficulty breathing, heart failure, paralysis, or death.
- Tetanus (T) causes painful stiffening of the muscles. Tetanus can lead to serious health problems, including being unable to open the mouth, having trouble swallowing and breathing, or death.
- Pertussis (aP), also known as “whooping cough,” can cause uncontrollable, violent coughing which makes it hard to breathe, eat, or drink. Pertussis can be extremely serious in babies and young children, causing pneumonia, convulsions, brain damage, or death. In teens and adults, it can cause weight loss, loss of bladder control, passing out, and rib fractures from severe coughing.

Hib (*Haemophilus influenzae* type b) disease

Haemophilus influenzae type b can cause many different kinds of infections. These infections usually affect children under 5 years old. Hib bacteria can cause mild illness, such as ear infections or bronchitis, or they can cause severe illness, such as infections of the bloodstream. Severe Hib infection requires treatment in a hospital and can sometimes be deadly.

Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is a liver disease. Acute hepatitis B infection is a short-term illness that can lead to fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellow skin or eyes, dark urine, clay-colored bowel movements), and pain in the muscles, joints, and stomach. Chronic hepatitis B infection is a long-term illness that is very serious and can lead to liver damage (cirrhosis), liver cancer, and death.

Polio

Polio is caused by a poliovirus. Most people infected with a poliovirus have no symptoms, but some people experience sore throat, fever, tiredness, nausea, headache, or stomach pain. A smaller group of people will develop more serious symptoms that affect the brain and spinal cord. In the most severe cases, polio can cause weakness and paralysis (when a person can't move parts of the body) which can lead to permanent disability and, in rare cases, death.

Pneumococcal disease

Pneumococcal disease is any illness caused by pneumococcal bacteria. These bacteria can cause pneumonia (infection of the lungs), ear infections, sinus infections, meningitis (infection of the tissue covering the brain and spinal cord), and bacteremia (bloodstream infection). Most pneumococcal infections are mild, but some can result in long-term problems, such as brain damage or hearing loss. Meningitis, bacteremia, and pneumonia caused by pneumococcal disease can be deadly.



2

DTaP, Hib, hepatitis B, polio, and pneumococcal conjugate vaccines

Infants and children usually need:

- 5 doses of **diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis vaccine (DTaP)**
- 3 or 4 doses of **Hib vaccine**
- 3 doses of **hepatitis B vaccine**
- 4 doses of **polio vaccine**
- 4 doses of **pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13)**

Some children might need fewer or more than the usual number of doses of some vaccines to be fully protected because of their age at vaccination or other circumstances.

Older children, adolescents, and adults with certain health conditions or other risk factors might also be recommended to receive 1 or more doses of some of these vaccines.

These vaccines may be given as stand-alone vaccines, or as part of a combination vaccine (a type of vaccine that combines more than one vaccine together into one shot).

3

Talk with your health care provider

Tell your vaccine provider if the child getting the vaccine:

For all vaccines:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of the vaccine**, or has any **severe, life-threatening allergies**.

For DTaP:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of any vaccine that protects against tetanus, diphtheria, or pertussis**.
- Has had a **coma, decreased level of consciousness, or prolonged seizures within 7 days after a previous dose of any pertussis vaccine (DTP or DTaP)**.
- Has **seizures or another nervous system problem**.
- Has ever had **Guillain-Barré Syndrome** (also called GBS).
- Has had **severe pain or swelling after a previous dose of any vaccine that protects against tetanus or diphtheria**.

For PCV13:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of PCV13, to an earlier pneumococcal conjugate vaccine known as PCV7, or to any vaccine containing diphtheria toxoid** (for example, DTaP).

In some cases, your child's health care provider may decide to postpone vaccination to a future visit.

Children with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. Children who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before being vaccinated.

Your child's health care provider can give you more information.

4

Risks of a vaccine reaction

For DTaP vaccine:

- Soreness or swelling where the shot was given, fever, fussiness, feeling tired, loss of appetite, and vomiting sometimes happen after DTaP vaccination.
- More serious reactions, such as seizures, non-stop crying for 3 hours or more, or high fever (over 105°F) after DTaP vaccination happen much less often. Rarely, the vaccine is followed by swelling of the entire arm or leg, especially in older children when they receive their fourth or fifth dose.
- Very rarely, long-term seizures, coma, lowered consciousness, or permanent brain damage may happen after DTaP vaccination.

For Hib vaccine:

- Redness, warmth, and swelling where the shot was given, and fever can happen after Hib vaccine.

For hepatitis B vaccine:

- Soreness where the shot is given or fever can happen after hepatitis B vaccine.

For polio vaccine:

- A sore spot with redness, swelling, or pain where the shot is given can happen after polio vaccine.

For PCV13:

- Redness, swelling, pain, or tenderness where the shot is given, and fever, loss of appetite, fussiness, feeling tired, headache, and chills can happen after PCV13.
- Young children may be at increased risk for seizures caused by fever after PCV13 if it is administered at the same time as inactivated influenza vaccine. Ask your health care provider for more information.

As with any medicine, there is a very remote chance of a vaccine causing a severe allergic reaction, other serious injury, or death.

5 What if there is a serious problem?

An allergic reaction could occur after the vaccinated person leaves the clinic. If you see signs of a severe allergic reaction (hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, or weakness), call **9-1-1** and get the person to the nearest hospital.

For other signs that concern you, call your health care provider.

Adverse reactions should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Your health care provider will usually file this report, or you can do it yourself. Visit the VAERS website at www.vaers.hhs.gov or call **1-800-822-7967**. *VAERS is only for reporting reactions, and VAERS staff do not give medical advice.*

6 The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) is a federal program that was created to compensate people who may have been injured by certain vaccines. Visit the VICP website at www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation or call **1-800-338-2382** to learn about the program and about filing a claim. There is a time limit to file a claim for compensation.

7 How can I learn more?

- Ask your health care provider.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
 - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
 - Visit CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines



Rotavirus Vaccine:

What You Need to Know

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See www.immunize.org/vis

Hojas de información sobre vacunas están disponibles en español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite www.immunize.org/vis

1 Why get vaccinated?

Rotavirus vaccine can prevent rotavirus disease.

Rotavirus causes diarrhea, mostly in babies and young children. The diarrhea can be severe, and lead to dehydration. Vomiting and fever are also common in babies with rotavirus.

2 Rotavirus vaccine

Rotavirus vaccine is administered by putting drops in the child's mouth. Babies should get 2 or 3 doses of rotavirus vaccine, depending on the brand of vaccine used.

- The first dose must be administered before 15 weeks of age.
- The last dose must be administered by 8 months of age.

Almost all babies who get rotavirus vaccine will be protected from severe rotavirus diarrhea.

Another virus called porcine circovirus (or parts of it) can be found in rotavirus vaccine. This virus does not infect people, and there is no known safety risk. For more information, see <http://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20170406124518/https://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/ucm212140.htm>.

Rotavirus vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

3 Talk with your health care provider

Tell your vaccine provider if the person getting the vaccine:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of rotavirus vaccine**, or has any severe, life-threatening allergies.
- Has a **weakened immune system**.

- Has **severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID)**.
- Has had a type of bowel blockage called **intussusception**.

In some cases, your child's health care provider may decide to postpone rotavirus vaccination to a future visit.

Infants with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. Infants who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting rotavirus vaccine.

Your child's health care provider can give you more information.

4 Risks of a vaccine reaction

- Irritability or mild, temporary diarrhea or vomiting can happen after rotavirus vaccine.

Intussusception is a type of bowel blockage that is treated in a hospital and could require surgery. It happens naturally in some infants every year in the United States, and usually there is no known reason for it. There is also a small risk of intussusception from rotavirus vaccination, usually within a week after the first or second vaccine dose. This additional risk is estimated to range from about 1 in 20,000 US infants to 1 in 100,000 US infants who get rotavirus vaccine. Your health care provider can give you more information.

As with any medicine, there is a very remote chance of a vaccine causing a severe allergic reaction, other serious injury, or death.



5**What if there is a serious problem?**

For intussusception, look for signs of stomach pain along with severe crying. Early on, these episodes could last just a few minutes and come and go several times in an hour. Babies might pull their legs up to their chest. Your baby might also vomit several times or have blood in the stool, or could appear weak or very irritable. These signs would usually happen during the first week after the first or second dose of rotavirus vaccine, but look for them any time after vaccination. If you think your baby has intussusception, contact a health care provider right away. If you can't reach your health care provider, take your baby to a hospital. Tell them when your baby got rotavirus vaccine.

An allergic reaction could occur after the vaccinated person leaves the clinic. If you see signs of a severe allergic reaction (hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, or weakness), call **9-1-1** and get the person to the nearest hospital.

For other signs that concern you, call your health care provider.

Adverse reactions should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Your health care provider will usually file this report, or you can do it yourself. Visit the VAERS website at www.vaers.hhs.gov or call **1-800-822-7967**. *VAERS is only for reporting reactions, and VAERS staff do not give medical advice.*

6**The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program**

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) is a federal program that was created to compensate people who may have been injured by certain vaccines. Visit the VICP website at www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation or call **1-800-338-2382** to learn about the program and about filing a claim. There is a time limit to file a claim for compensation.

7**How can I learn more?**

- Ask your health care provider.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
 - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
 - Visit CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines

