

# Hepatitis B Vaccine



« Vaccination is good protection »

This vaccine protects against hepatitis B and its complications. Hepatitis B is a liver infection caused by a virus (HBV).

DISEASE	Hepatitis B is spread by:	Hepatitis B causes:	Possible complications:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact between a wound or mucus membrane and the blood, sperm, or vaginal secretions of an infected person</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever</li> <li>Abdominal pain</li> <li>Jaundice</li> <li>Vomiting</li> <li>Diarrhea</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe liver disease</li> <li>Chronic liver infection (10% of adults and up to 90% of infants)</li> <li>Cirrhosis of the liver</li> <li>Liver cancer</li> <li>Death (1% of cases)</li> </ul>

## VACCINE

Vaccination is the best protection against hepatitis B and its complications. The vaccine is recommended for those who want to reduce their risk of catching hepatitis B. More than one dose of vaccine is required to ensure the best possible protection.

The hepatitis B vaccine is safe. In most cases, there are no unpleasant reactions. Symptoms experienced after vaccination are not necessarily caused by the vaccine.

REACTIONS	Possible reactions to the vaccine:	What to do:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swelling, redness and pain at the injection site (1-9%)</li> <li>Fever (1-9%)</li> <li>Headache, digestive problems, dizziness, fatigue (1-9%)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply a cold, damp compress to the injection site</li> <li>Take acetaminophen or ibuprofen for temperature of 38.5°C or higher</li> <li>See a doctor if symptoms are severe</li> </ul>

As with any drug or biological product, an allergic reaction may occur. If a severe allergic reaction occurs, it begins within minutes and the person administering the vaccine will be able to treat it. That is why you are advised to remain at the clinic for at least 15 minutes after the vaccine is administered.

If you have any questions, ask the person administering the vaccine or contact Info-Santé (8-1-1) or your doctor.

