

Hepatitis A and B Vaccine



Vaccination is good protection



This vaccine protects against hepatitis A and B and their complications. Hepatitis A and B are liver infections caused by two different viruses: the hepatitis A virus and the hepatitis B virus.

DISEASES

Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B
<p>Hepatitis A is spread by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact with food or water contaminated by the stool of an infected person <p><i>Young children infected with hepatitis A often have no symptoms but may spread the disease to those around them</i></p>	<p>Hepatitis B is spread by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact between wound or mucus membrane and the blood, sperm, or vaginal secretions of an infected person.
<p>Hepatitis A causes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever Fatigue Loss of appetite Jaundice Headache 	<p>Hepatitis B causes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever Abdominal pain Jaundice Vomiting Diarrhea
<p>Possible complications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe liver disease Fatigue lasting several weeks Death (0.1-0.3% of cases) 	<p>Possible complications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe liver disease Chronic liver infection (10% of adults and up to 90% of infants) Cirrhosis of the liver Liver cancer Death (1% of cases)

VACCINE

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

The hepatitis A and 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"> Swelling, redness and pain at the injection site (10-49%) Fever (1-9%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply a cold, damp compress to the injection site Take acetaminophen or ibuprofen for temperature of 38.5°C or higher
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headache, malaise, fatigue, nausea or vomiting (1-9%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See a doctor if symptoms are severe

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.