

# Polio Vaccine



« Vaccination is good protection »

This vaccine protects against polio and its complications.

<b>DISEASE</b>	<b>Polio causes:</b>	<b>Possible complications:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever</li> <li>• Nausea and vomiting</li> <li>• General discomfort</li> <li>• Paralysis of arms and legs (1% of cases)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breathing problems</li> <li>• Permanent paralysis (nearly 50% of hospitalized cases)</li> <li>• Death (5% of hospitalized cases)</li> </ul>

## VACCINE

Vaccination is the best way to protect against polio and its complications. The vaccine is given to children 2 months or over and is usually combined with vaccines for diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and severe *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) infections. This vaccine is also given to people of all ages travelling to countries where there is a risk of exposure to polio.

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

<b>REACTIONS</b>	<b>Possible reactions to the vaccine:</b>	<b>What to do:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pain (10-49%), redness (1-9%) and swelling (1 to 9 per 1,000) at the injection site</li> <li>• Children running a fever (10-49%)</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> </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.