

Pediacel® Vaccine Information Sheet

(Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio and Hib Vaccine)

Pediacel® is a vaccine that protects against five serious infections – tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, poliomyelitis and Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)

- It is used for infants and toddlers
- Four doses of vaccine are required for complete protection, and are given at 2, 4, 6 and 18 months of age
- Infants under 12 months receive the injection in the thigh; children over one year of age receive it in the upper arm

Mild side effects may occur, such as:

- Redness, swelling or discomfort at the injection site
- Fever, fussiness, lack of appetite, crying

Severe side effects are rare.

People should delay or avoid this immunization if they:

- Have ever had a severe reaction to a vaccine. It is best to speak to a health care provider when there are complicated health concerns or previous severe reactions to vaccines
- Have an allergy to neomycin, polymyxin B or streptomycin
- Are over the age of 5



1-800-361-5653
TTY (for the hearing impaired) 1-866-252-9933

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Diphtheria	Tetanus	Pertussis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainly affects the nose and throat area • Causes sore throat, fever, loss of appetite • Causes a thick, grey membrane to form in the throat, and makes the underlying tissue in the neck become red, swollen and painful • Can lead to breathing problems, airway blockage, difficulty swallowing, pneumonia, brain damage or death • Spreads easily from person to person through droplets expelled from the mouth, nose and throat of an infected person, through talking, coughing or sneezing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is also known as lockjaw • Causes painful, prolonged muscle spasms of the jaw, neck, arms, leg and stomach • Can lead to broken bones, suffocation, or death • Is caused by tetanus bacteria that enter the body through a cut or wound in the skin. These bacteria are found in the environment, usually in soil, dust or manure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is also known as whooping cough • Causes a cough that can last for 6 to 12 weeks, making eating, drinking and sleeping difficult • Can lead to breathing difficulties, pneumonia, brain damage or death, especially in infants • Is contagious for 7 days prior to coughing • Spreads easily from person to person through droplets from the mouth, nose and throat of an infected person, through talking, coughing or sneezing



Poliomyelitis

- Is also known as polio
- Is a serious disease that can result in permanent paralysis
- Has been eliminated in the western hemisphere, but is still causing severe illness in other parts of the world
- Can cause symptoms such as fever, feeling unwell, headache, nausea and vomiting, extreme muscle pains and spasms, stiffness of the neck and back, weakness, or severe fatigue
- Is caused by a virus that is present in the feces and the throat secretions of infected people
- Is spread through eating or drinking food or water that is contaminated by the feces of an infected person, or through contact with the feces (i.e., diaper changes)
- Can also be spread through mouth and throat secretions (i.e., by kissing, or sharing eating utensils)

Haemophilus influenzae type B (Hib)

- Is an infection that mostly affects young, unimmunized children
- Commonly starts in the nose and throat and can spread to the ears, sinuses, eyes, airways or lungs
- Causes fever, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting
- Can also invade the bloodstream and affect the lungs, heart, bones, joints and skin
- Can lead to meningitis, brain damage, deafness, pneumonia or death
- Spreads from person to person through droplets from the mouth, nose and throat of an infected person, such as through coughing, sneezing, kissing or sharing drinks



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