



Renfrew County and
District Health Unit

FACT SHEET

DIPHTHERIA, TETANUS, ACELLULAR PERTUSSIS, POLIO AND HAEMOPHILUS TYPE B (DTAP-IPV-HIB)



Vaccination against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio is required for all children attending school in Ontario. DTaP-IPV-Hib is a combined vaccine that protects children against five diseases - diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis, polio and haemophilus influenzae type b (a type of bacterial meningitis).

What is Diphtheria?

It is a disease of the nose, throat and skin caused by bacteria. It causes a thick coating of mucous in the back of the nose or throat that makes it hard to breathe or swallow. It is easily passed through coughing, sneezing or simply by touching objects that were recently exposed to the bacteria. It can cause complications such as heart failure and nerve damage.

What is Tetanus?

Tetanus (also known as lockjaw) is a disease caused by bacteria. It lives in the dirt, dust as well as in human and animal feces. It most commonly enters your body through a cut on your skin. The infection affects the nerves that control your muscles. It causes muscle cramps and even seizures that can fracture bones. Even if treated rapidly, tetanus causes death to 2 in 10 (20%) people that are infected.

What is Pertussis?

Pertussis (also known as whooping cough) is a disease of the lungs and airways that is caused by bacteria. It is easily passed through coughing or sneezing. It causes coughing spells that can stop your breathing. It can cause serious complications such as pneumonia, brain damage, seizures, etc.

What is Polio?

Polio is a serious disease that people can get from drinking water or eating food with the polio germ in it. It can also be spread from person to person. This disease can cause nerve damage and paralyze a person for life. It can paralyze muscles used for breathing, talking, eating and walking. It can also cause death.



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What is Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)?

Hib does not cause influenza. Before the vaccine was used, this germ was the most common cause of bacterial meningitis in children. Meningitis can cause brain damage, learning and developmental problems, deafness, blindness and death. The Hib germ can also cause infection of the lungs (pneumonia), bone and joint infections. The Hib germ spreads to others through coughing and sneezing.

At what age should my child be vaccinated with the DTaP-IPV-Hib vaccine?

Children should have the first vaccine at two months of age. Three more vaccines are needed – at four months, six months and 18 months of age. If your child misses a dose, he/she should get it as soon as possible.

Is the vaccine safe?

Yes. Serious side effects are rare. Mild pain, swelling and redness for a few days are common at the spot where the needle was given. Some children get a fever or rash, lose their appetite, may be fussy or drowsy for a day or two after the shot. There is no risk of a pregnant woman or anyone else catching any disease from a child who has been vaccinated recently.

When should I call my health care provider?

Call your health care provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency department if any of the following symptoms develop within 3 days of getting the vaccine:

- hives
- swelling of the face or mouth
- trouble breathing
- very pale colour and serious drowsiness
- high fever (over 40°C or 104°F)
- convulsions or seizures

Who should not get the DTaP-IPV-Hib vaccine?

Children with the following conditions should not receive this vaccine:



- Children ill with a fever or infection worse than a common cold.
- Children who have had serious allergic reaction to the vaccine or something in the vaccine - neomycin, streptomycin, polymyxin B (antibiotics), glutaraldehyde (disinfectant), formaldehyde, aluminum phosphate, 2-phenoxyethanol (preservatives), polysorbate 80)
- Anaphylaxis to DTaP-IPV-Hib vaccine

Who should I talk to if I have any more questions?

Talk to your health care provider or call Renfrew County and District Health Unit Health Info Line at **613-735-8666 or 1-800-267-1097 Ext. 666.**

How do I keep track of this vaccination?

After you get any vaccination, make sure your personal immunization record, such as your "Yellow Card", is updated. Keep it in a safe place!

| To contact us or for more information | |
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|  | 613-735-8653 or 1-800-267-1097 |
|  | www.rcdhu.com Healthy Living Immunization Immunizations for Children |
|  | 7 International Dr, Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5 |
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Source: Adapted from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Fact Sheet, July 2015

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