

## What happens after my baby has been immunised?

### What happens directly afterwards?

Just in case your baby reacts to the injection, you'll be asked to stay in the surgery for about 10 minutes after the immunisation. It's normal for babies and young children to be upset for a little while after an immunisation by injection and they may be a little irritable or off-colour that evening.

### What about side effects?

Usually, any side effects will occur where the injection was given, including:

- Swelling
- Redness
- A small hard lump

These will pass in 1-2 days and you don't have to worry about them. Sometimes your child may develop a fever.

### What about the MMR vaccine?

MMR consists of three different vaccines (measles, mumps and rubella) and these can each cause reactions at different times post-injection.

**6-10 days post injection** – the measles vaccine starts to work and may cause a fever, a measles like rash, and loss of appetite.

**2-3 weeks post-injection** – the mumps vaccine may cause mumps like symptoms in some children. (fever and swollen glands).

**Up to 6 weeks post-injection** – the rubella vaccine may cause a brief rash and possibly a slight raised temperature, most commonly around 12 to 14 days after the injection, but a rash may also rarely occur up to six weeks later.

### Can I give Infant Paracetamol or Infant Ibuprofen afterwards?

Should your baby have a fever after the immunisation, you can give them infant paracetamol if they're 2 months of age (weighing over 4kg and not premature), or infant ibuprofen if they are 3 months of age (weighing over 5kg). Ask your Doctor or Pharmacist for advice if you're unsure how much to give, and always read the label.

# What happens if you don't take your medicine?

When you don't take your medicine, it can be dangerous. Your doctor has prescribed a certain amount of medicine to help you feel better and to keep you healthy. If you don't take it, your body might not be able to fight off the illness or the pain. It could also make the illness worse. So, it's very important to take your medicine exactly as your doctor tells you to.

There are several reasons why you might not take your medicine. Maybe you're busy, or maybe you're feeling better and you think you don't need it anymore. But remember, the medicine is still working in your body, and it's still important to take it.

It's also important to know that if you don't take your medicine, you might have to take a higher dose when you do. This could be more dangerous for you. So, it's best to take your medicine every day, even if you feel better. This will help you get better faster and stay healthy longer.

Another reason you might not take your medicine is because you're afraid of side effects. But your doctor has prescribed the medicine because they think the benefits will be greater than the risks. If you have any side effects, you should talk to your doctor about them. They might be able to help you manage them or switch you to a different medicine. Don't stop taking your medicine just because you're worried about side effects.

It's also important to know that if you don't take your medicine, you might have to stay in the hospital or see a specialist. This could be very expensive and stressful for you. So, it's best to take your medicine as prescribed to avoid these things.

Finally, it's important to know that if you don't take your medicine, you might not be able to go back to work or school. This could be a big problem for you. So, it's best to take your medicine as prescribed to get better faster and get back to your normal life. Remember, your doctor is your best friend when it comes to your health. Listen to their advice and take your medicine as prescribed.

So, what happens if you don't take your medicine? It can be dangerous and it can make your illness worse. It's very important to take your medicine exactly as your doctor tells you to. If you have any questions or concerns, talk to your doctor. They will be happy to help you.

**What about febrile convulsions (fits)?**

It's rare for this sort of reaction to happen, but febrile convulsions (seizures or fits) occasionally happen in young children with a high temperature. If your baby develops a temperature of 39-40degrees Celsius or above, or has a febrile convulsion, call your doctor and treat the fever straight away.

**If you have concerns, please speak to your Doctor or NHS Direct.**

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