



Ten Important Facts That Explain Why Health Professionals Recommend Immunizations

1. Immunizations are one of the most important ways parents can protect their children against serious infectious diseases.
2. Immunizations are extremely safe thanks to advancements in medical research and ongoing review by doctors, researchers, and public health officials.
3. Children and adults who have not been immunized are at far greater risk of becoming infected with, and harmed by, serious infectious diseases.
4. Infants and young children are particularly vulnerable to infectious diseases; that's why it is critical that they are protected through immunization.
5. While there are small risks associated with every immunization, children and adults are far more likely to be harmed by the diseases than by the immunizations.
6. The reason children now receive more immunizations than in the past is because we are able to safely protect them from more serious diseases than ever before.
7. People who are not immunized increase the chance that others will get the disease. Infectious diseases spread among people who have not been immunized, and among the small percentage of people for whom the immunization did not work.
8. Immunizations work by helping the body's own immune system become stronger.
9. There are no effective alternatives to immunization for protection against serious infectious diseases.
10. Without immunizations, the diseases we are now protected from will return to sicken, and even kill, many infants, children and adults. Some of those who survive the illnesses would also suffer from chronic health problems for the rest of their lives.

There is a lot of information about immunizations on the web and in the media, but not all of that information can be trusted. You should ask your doctor or nurse for their advice and guidance about where you can learn more.