Faith Perspectives on Vaccines

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Representative for Kansas District 63

Kansas Family Physician of the Year, 2019

Words of Wisdom

"I believe that we are now at a crossroads in our American Culture. We can either choose to follow the ‘culture of me’ (and only my rights) or the ‘culture of we’ (and the greater good for all).

For me, I choose ‘to love my neighbor as myself’ and get vaccinated with a safe effective immunization that does just that—protects me and everyone around me.

This is an ultimate expression of our Christian faith, as we strive to protect all of us. Protect yourself AND EVERYONE ELSE.

Get vaccinated as soon as you can!!"

3 Main Purposes of Vaccination

#1 Vaccines help protect the health and life of those who get vaccinated.

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Chickenpox vaccine is 85% to 90% effective in preventing all chickenpox infections and 100% effective in preventing moderate and severe chicken pox.

#1 Vaccines help protect the health and life of those who get vaccinated.

Often, the diseases prevented by vaccines are severe, requiring hospital care.

For example, in the U.S. in 2011, 222 people had measles and 1 out of 3 needed hospital care.

These diseases also may lead to long-term disability.

For example, after meningitis caused by infection with the pneumococcus bacteria, people often have:

- Nerve damage that interferes with daily life
- Hearing loss
- Long-term learning and thinking problems

#2 Vaccines help our friends and families - of all ages - to safely gather.

Babies

Some illnesses, such as pertussis (whooping cough) are very dangerous to infants. Anyone in close contact with an infant should be sure they are fully vaccinated.

#2 Vaccines help our friends and families - of all ages - to safely gather.

Families and Friends

Vaccines help us prevent spread of infections to our families and others near us.

Keep in mind -- we don't always know the medical history of the person next to us during work, play, or worship.

#2 Vaccines help our friends and families - of all ages - to safely gather.

Elders

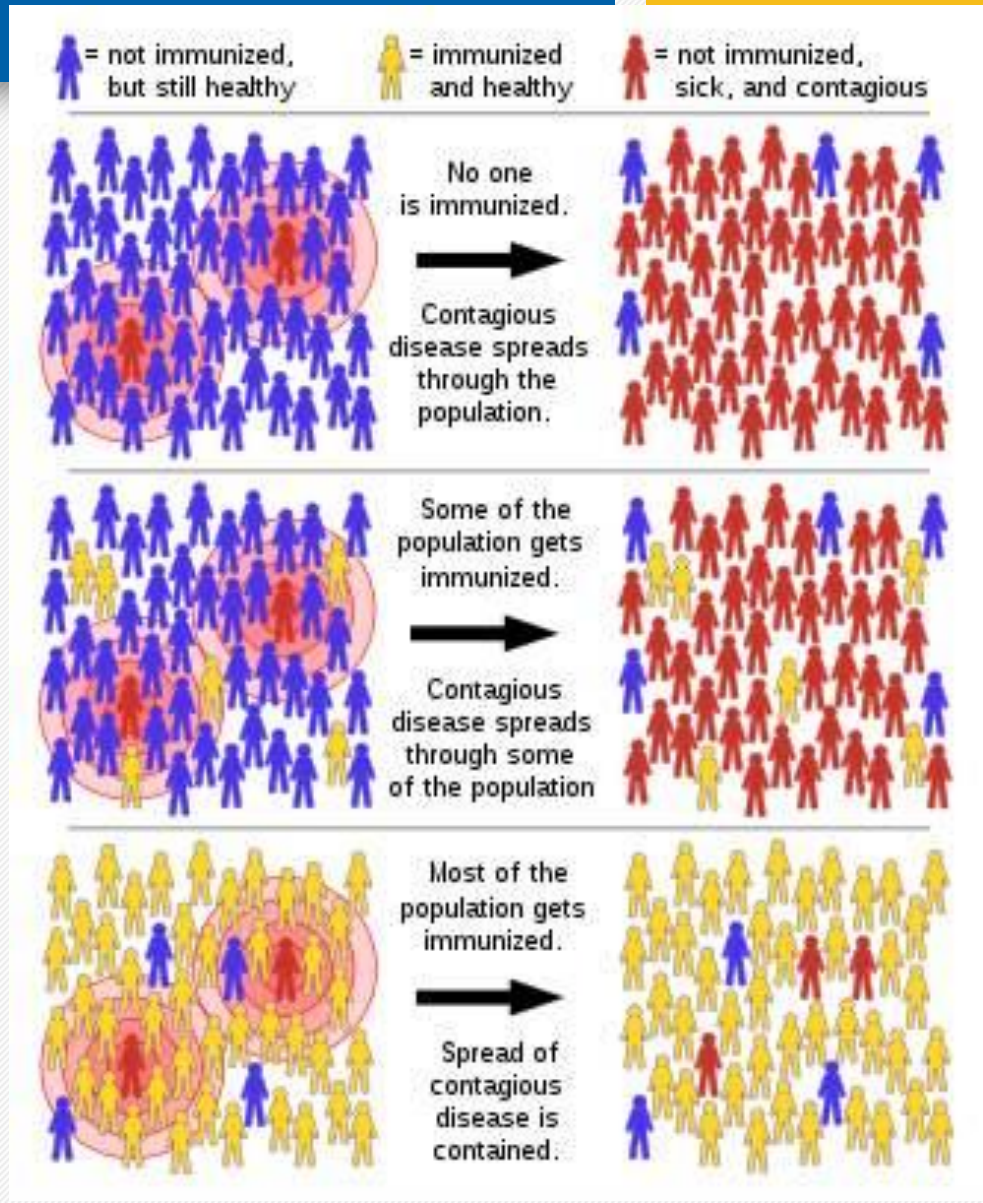
Some infections, like flu, can take a big toll on people ages 65 and older.

If the people around them get vaccinated, that reduces their risk of exposure.

#3 Vaccines help keep our neighbors and communities safer.

Community immunity: the protection offered to everyone in a community by high vaccination rates.

This offers some protection to people who are unable to receive vaccinations.



We can love our neighbors by getting vaccinated.

"...the morality of vaccination depends not only on the duty to protect one's own health, but also on the duty to pursue the common good"

from The Vatican Statement

"If God wants to take me, then He will take me."

Some people say this as a reason to avoid vaccination.
Have you ever heard someone say this?

“If God wants to take me, then he will take me.”

God created everything - including our bodies! He designed our bodies with natural immune systems, but in our fallen world we encounter disease and infection that can be too much for our bodies.

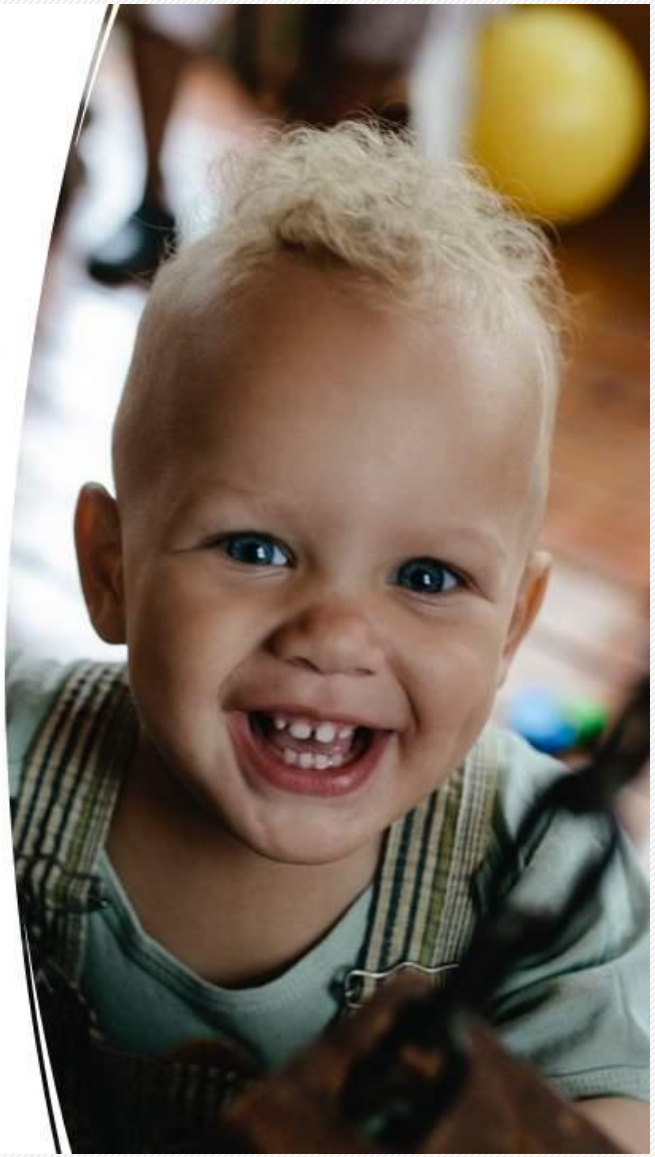
But God also created our incredible brains! Researchers and scientists have used their brains to understand the immune system and develop vaccines that work with our natural immune system *“equipping it to do the extraordinary work God created it to do. Like a military drill, vaccination ensures our defenses are fully prepared to fend off a dangerous disease.”*

Quotation from Biologos

We are called to trust God,
while also actively making
wise plans and decisions
for ourselves and our families.

Proverbs 21:5

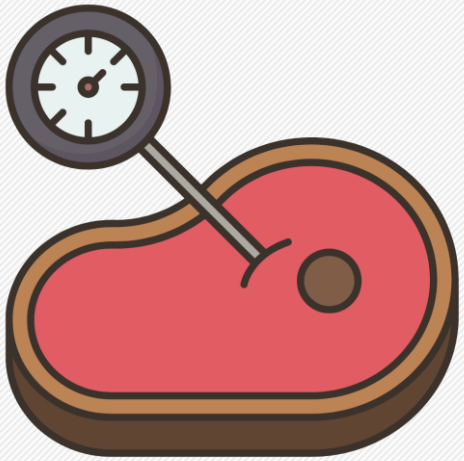
He does not ask us
to be apathetic or
reckless with our
health. In fact, our
bodies and lives are
precious to Him as
they are created in
His image
(Gen 1:27)
and we should live
accordingly.

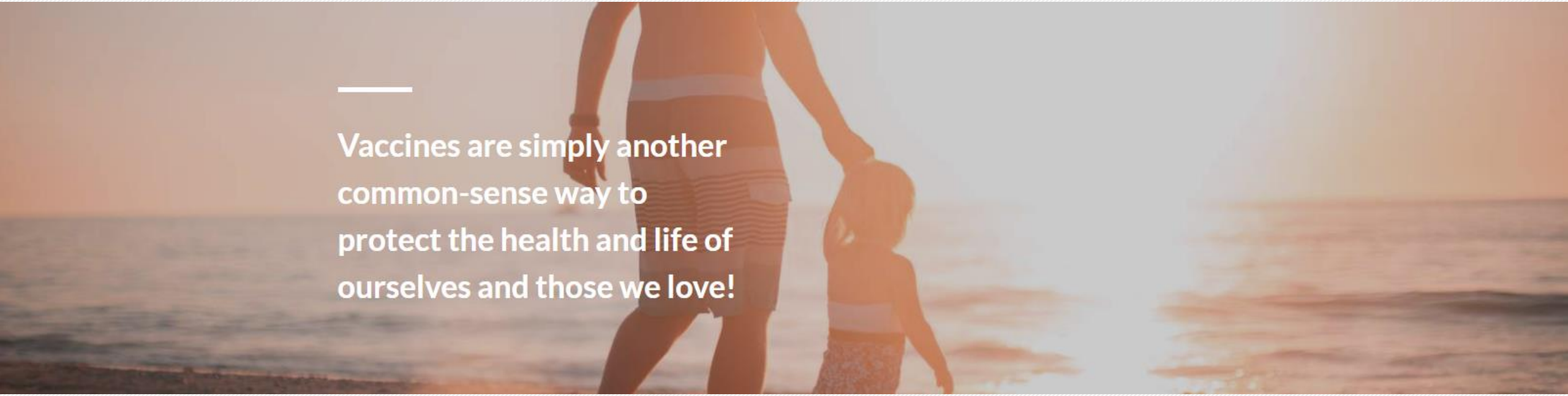


Vaccines are the safest option

We do plenty of common-sense things to minimize risk to protect our health and the health of our families, like:

- washing hands before meals
- cooking meat to the proper temperature
- stopping at stop signs
- ensuring children do not run into the street




Vaccines are simply another
common-sense way to
protect the health and life of
ourselves and those we love!

"Can I trust doctors, scientists, and others?"

Proverbs 3:7-8

"Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones."

Proverbs 3:7-8

In humility, we can trust the scientists, researchers, and doctors who have studied these topics and are best equipped to make these recommendations.

History of Faiths and Vaccination

Long Support

“Christians have quietly been part of the immunization success story for years, and faith communities already play an important role in reaching the underserved with vaccines. It's time to speak up to dispel myths that vaccines are harmful, and in support of continued U.S. support for immunization programs. **No child should have to die of a disease we can prevent.”**

From Christians' Long Support for Vaccines

Image of Cotton Mather

Pro-Vaccines History

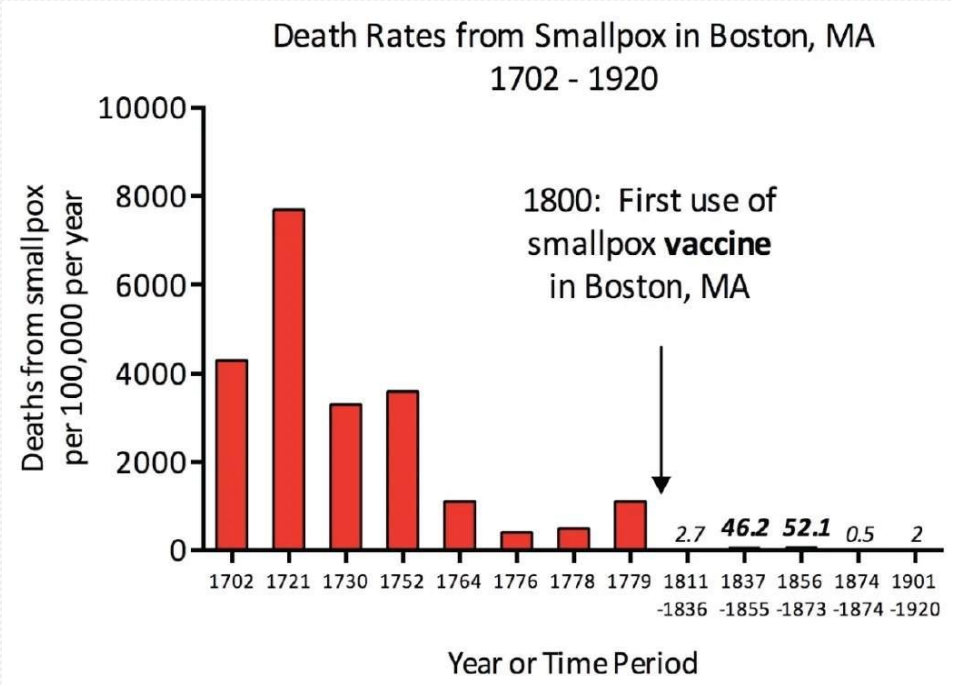
“The first public 'vaccines' campaign in US history was led by a Puritan preacher.

Cotton Mather had seen smallpox kill many fellow Bostonians, including his first wife and several of his children. The disease was a scourge on Native Americans and colonists living in New England in the 17th and 18th centuries. But Mather knew disease wasn’t inevitable. He had studied the sciences at Harvard before taking over his father’s influential congregation, Boston’s North Church. **He believed God revealed truth in the book of Scripture and the book of nature, and Mather published several works showing the harmony between the two.”**

From Christians' Pro-Vaccines History

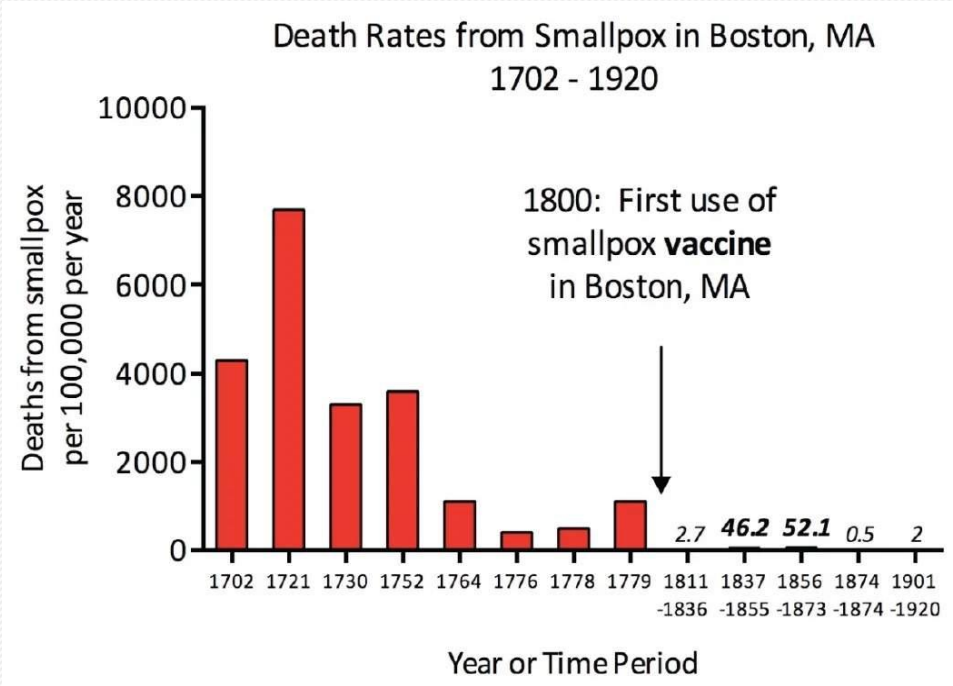
Smallpox Epidemic

"On a November day in 1721, a **small bomb was hurled through the window of a local Boston Reverend named Cotton Mather.** Attached to the explosive, which fortunately did not detonate, was the message: "*Cotton Mather, you dog, dam you! I'll inoculate you with this; with a pox to you.*" This was not a religiously motivated act of terrorism, but **a violent response to Reverend Mather's active promotion of smallpox inoculation."**



Smallpox Epidemic

"The **smallpox epidemic that struck Boston in 1721 was one of the most deadly of the century** in colonial America, but was also the catalyst for the **first major application of preventative inoculation** in the colonies. The use of inoculation laid the foundation for the modern techniques of infectious diseases prevention, and the **contentious public debate** that accompanied the introduction of this poorly understood medical technology has **surprising similarities to contemporary misunderstandings** over vaccination."



From [The Fight Over Inoculation During the 1721 Boston Smallpox Epidemic]

Churches Respond

Around the world, **churches help their communities get vaccinated** and **put an end to vaccine-preventable diseases** like polio and measles for children and adults.

For an interesting look at how the church responded to previous pandemics, read this article from the Canadian Centre for Christian Charities

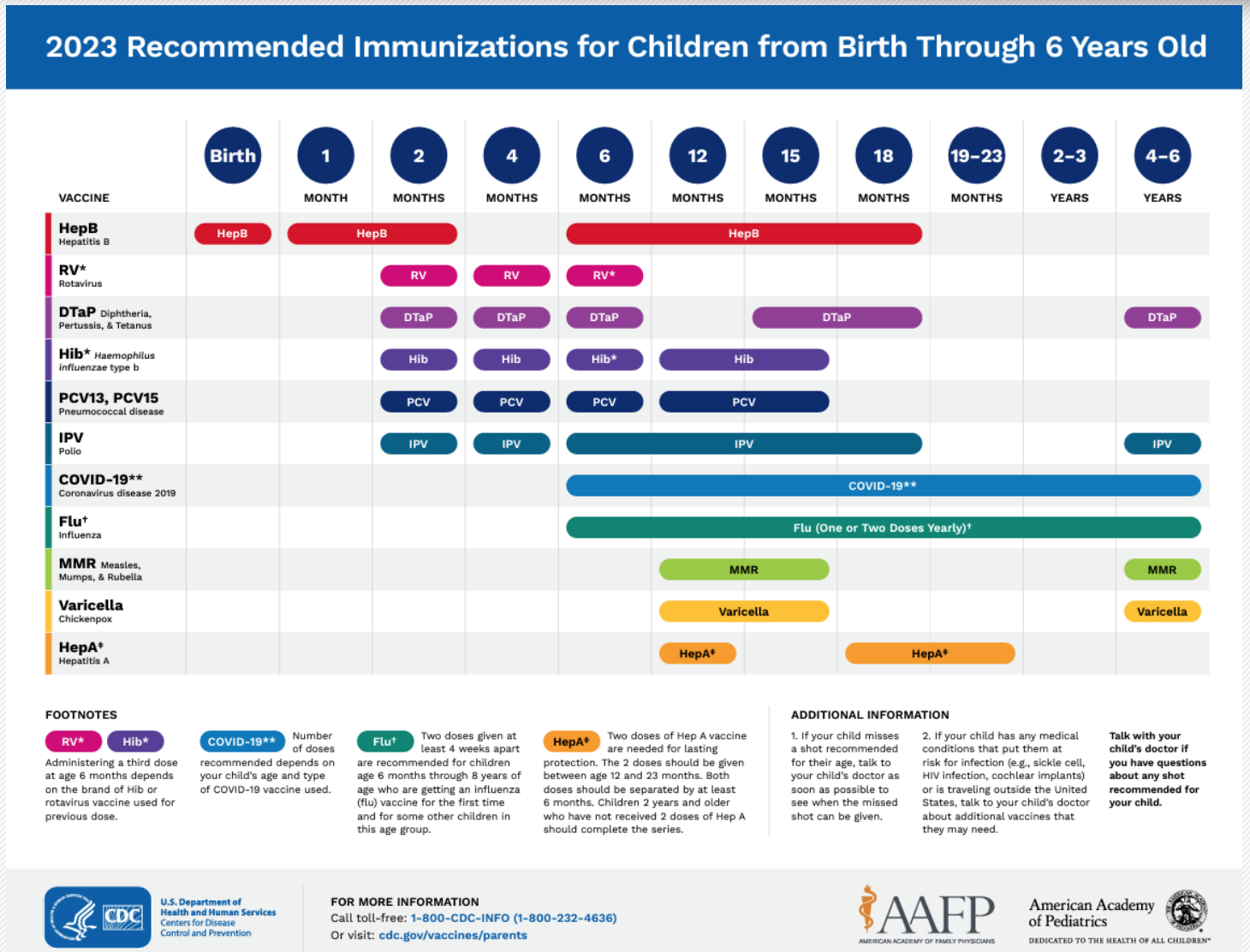
Available at https://www.cccc.org/news_blogs/john/2021/01/11/how-the-church-responded-to-previous-pandemics/

A health worker vaccinates a baby at Bishop Masereka Medical Center in Uganda. (Christian Connections for International Health)

What diseases do vaccines prevent?

Ages birth to 6 years

Birth to 6 Years Immunization Schedule



Why do we want to prevent these diseases?

Click on the schedule to open the full PDF in web browser.

Hepatitis B
A virus that can destroy the liver

- **Spread:** Through contact with blood, saliva, body tissues, or the fluids of an infected person.
- **Vaccine reactions**: If any, tend to be mild, such as soreness at the injection site or slight fever.
- **The first dose:** This should be given in the delivery center because any exposure to hepatitis B in the newborn period is a medical emergency.

Hepatitis B
A virus that can destroy the liver

Infants are at special risk because if they become infected from their mothers at birth or during infancy:

- 90% will develop a life-long hepatitis B infection
- 25% of those with this long-term infection will develop liver cancer or liver failure later in life.

Many adults need hepatitis B vaccine, too, because they did not get it when they were children. If you are not sure whether you've been vaccinated, *check with your doctor!*

Rotavirus

A virus that causes severe diarrhea

- **Spread**: From other people and surfaces.
- **Disease:** Rotavirus causes vomiting, diarrhea, and fever. Once ill, infants can quickly become dehydrated. **Before rotavirus vaccine was added** to the childhood immunization schedule, **up to 70,000 children were hospitalized each year** in the U.S. due to rotavirus.
- **Vaccine reactions:** Rare, mild reactions can include fever and diarrhea.

Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
It used to be the #1 bacteria to cause meningitis.

- **Spread:** Through coughing or from contact with an infected person's saliva.
- **Disease:** Hib causes severe infections of the brain, throat, and blood. Meningitis is an inflamed lining of the brain and spinal cord.
- **The disease is extremely serious:**
  - Fatal in 5% of patients
  - Causes brain damage in 10% to 30% of survivors
- **Vaccine reactions**: This can cause soreness at the injection site. It is not associated with serious side effects.

Pneumococcus

A bacteria that causes problems for young & old

- **Spread:** People have the bacteria in their nose or throat, which spreads to others through direct contact with airway fluids.
- **Disease:** Prior to the use of this vaccine, each year in the U.S. pneumococcal disease caused:
  - 5 million ear infections
  - 13,000 blood infections
  - 700 cases of meningitis
  - 200 deaths
- **Vaccine reactions:** This vaccine can cause soreness at the injection site and low-grade fever.

Bonus! When children receive this vaccine, they don't spread pneumococcus to grandparents.

Polio

A virus that causes paralysis and limb "withering"

- **Spread:** When the feces of an infected person gets into the mouth of another person through contaminated water or food.
- **Disease**: Polio virus can spread to the nervous system and cause short- or long-term paralysis.
- **Vaccine reactions**: May cause soreness where it was injected. It is not associated with serious side effects.

Polio

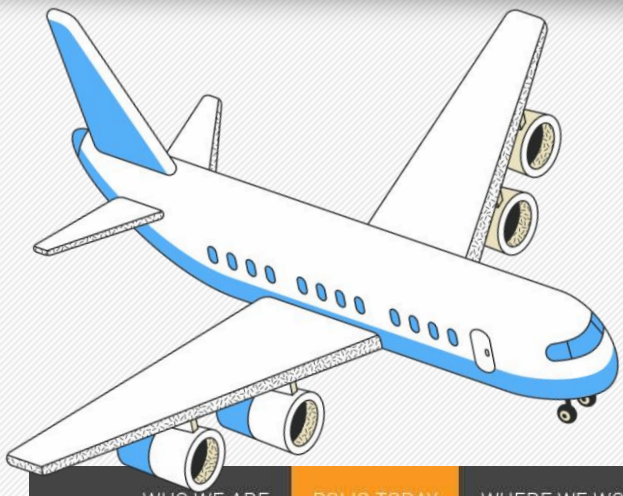
A virus that causes paralysis and limb "withering"

Eradicate polio!

Polio was eliminated from the United States in 1979; however, on a few occasions, cases have been identified in this country.

The world is trying to *eradicate polio forever* as we did with smallpox.

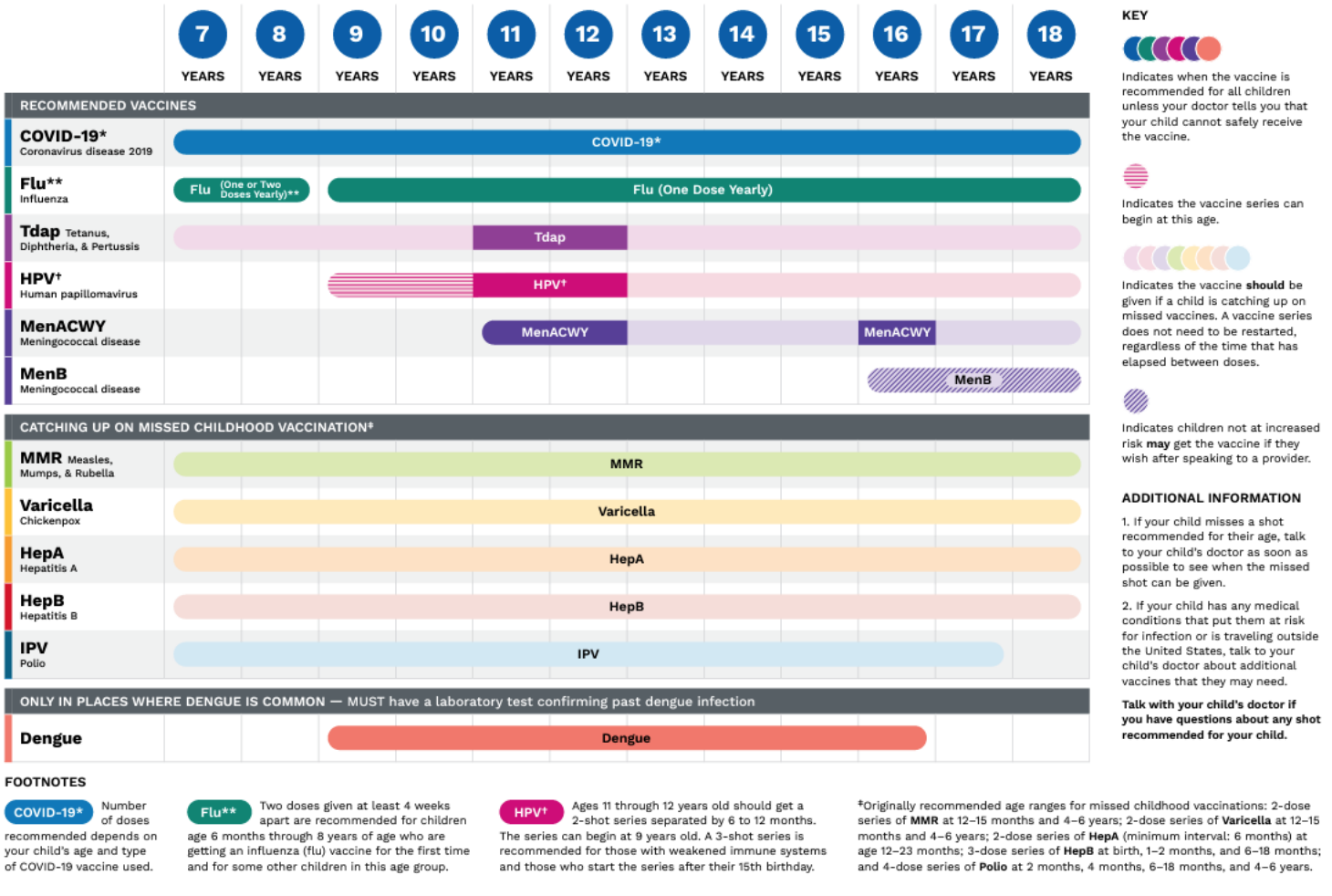
Vaccinating your child is a key way to help reach this goal.



What diseases can vaccines prevent?

Ages 7-18 years

7 to 18 Years Immunization Schedule



Why do we want to prevent these diseases?

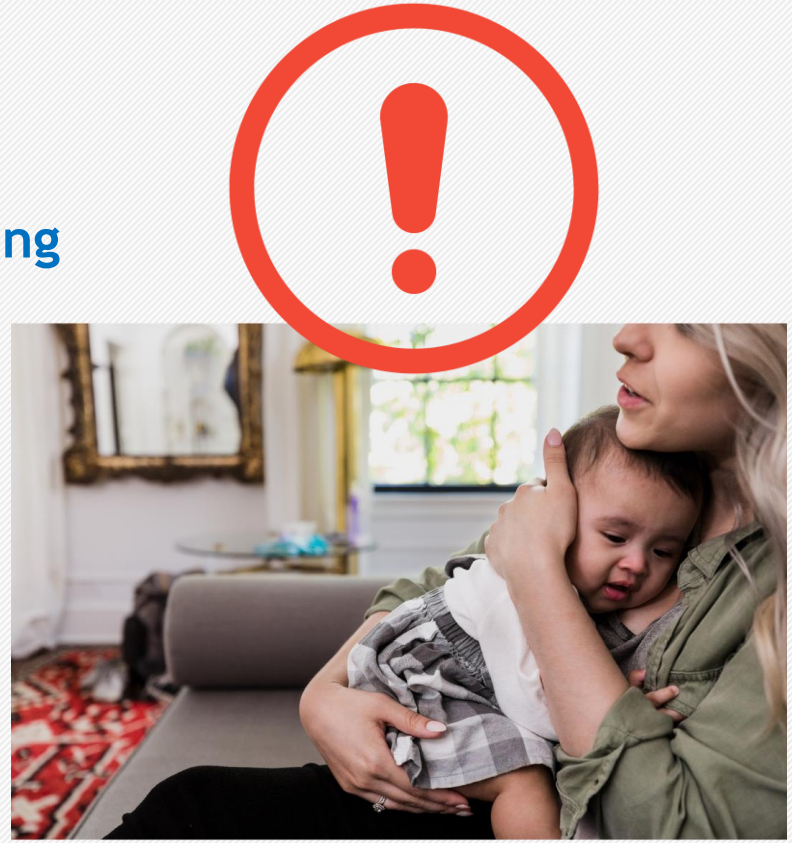
Click on the schedule to open the full PDF in web browser.

Pertussis (In the Tdap vaccine)
Also known as Whooping Cough

- **Spread:** Droplets produced during coughing or sneezing carry the bacteria to others nearby. **Many infants who get pertussis are infected by older siblings, parents, or caregivers** who might not even known they have the disease.
- **Disease:** After a week or two of 'cold' symptoms, the person may have…
  - Fits of many, rapid coughs followed by a high-pitched “whoop” sound
  - Throwing up during or after coughing fits
  - Feeling very tired after coughing fits
- **Vaccine reactions**: Redness, swelling, pain, and tenderness at the injection site is most common. Some people get body-ache, fatigue, or even a fever.

Pertussis (In the Tdap vaccine)
Also known as Whooping Cough

- **Disease complications:** Teens and adults often have complications that are unpleasant, but infants and young children are **in danger**.
  - 1 out of 4 (23%) get lung infection
  - 1 out of 100 (1.1%) will have convulsions
  - 3 out of 5 (61%) will have slowed or stopped breathing
  - 1 out of 300 (0.3%) will have disease of the brain
  - 1 out of 100 (1%) will die



Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

A virus that causes cancers

- **Spread**: from mother to infant, non-sexually from person-to-person or sexually.
- **Disease:** HPV can cause cancer of the base of the tongue and tonsils, cervix, vulva, vagina, penis, or anus. *The cancer often develops years, or even decades, after infection.*
- **Vaccine reactions:** HPV vaccine can cause pain, redness, or swelling in the arm where the shot was given. A few adolescents get fever, fainting, nausea, headache, or tired feeling.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

A virus that causes cancers

- **Coverage:** HPV vaccination rates have risen considerably over the past 10 years, but remain suboptimal. Coverage remains far below desired and far below most other adolescent vaccinations. Vaccination between ages 9-12 is best, but many miss this window. Because your child's future marriage partner may not have been vaccinated, it's even more important for your child to get the vaccine.

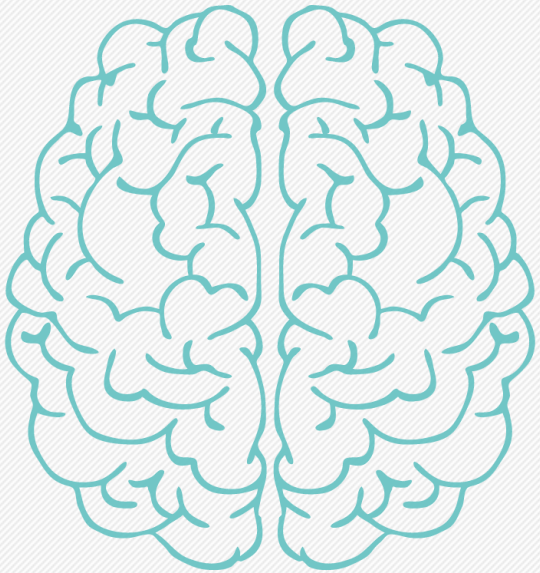
Visit the American Cancer Society "HPV Cancer Free" website

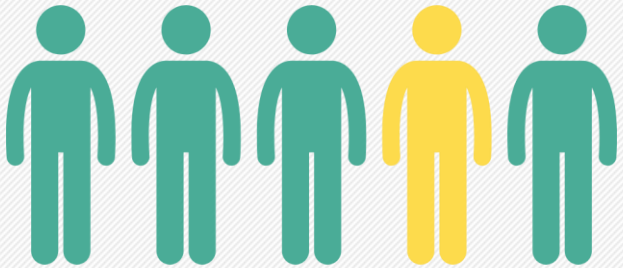
Meningococcus
Uncommon, but devastating

- **Spread:** from person-to-person by coughing or coming into close or lengthy contact with someone who is sick or who carries the bacteria without knowing it.
  - Contact includes kissing, sharing drinks, or living together.
  - Up to 1-in-10 people carry this bacteria in their nose or throat without getting sick.
- **Disease:** This causes severe infections of the brain and blood as well as loss of fingers, hands, feet, and limbs.
- **Vaccine reactions**: As with the other vaccines in this lesson, this can cause soreness at the injection site, fever, headache, nausea, and fatigue.

Meningococcus
Uncommon, but devastating

- **The disease can be extremely serious**
  - Meningitis is the inflamed lining of the brain and spinal cord.
  - Even with antibiotic treatment, **10-15% of infected people will die.**
  - Up to **1-in-5 survivors will have long-term disabilities**, such as loss of limb(s), deafness, nervous system problems, or brain damage.





On-time Vaccination is the Best Choice

Then and Now
Vaccination is still the best choice

Measles cases in the United States, 1944-2007
https://newsforkids.net/articles/2018/08/28/without-vaccines-measles-numbers-grow/

In the past, parents feared diseases such as measles, and were eager to have their children vaccinated.

Then and Now
Vaccination is still the best choice

If you want your child to be active in school and sports, *immunization is the best choice*.

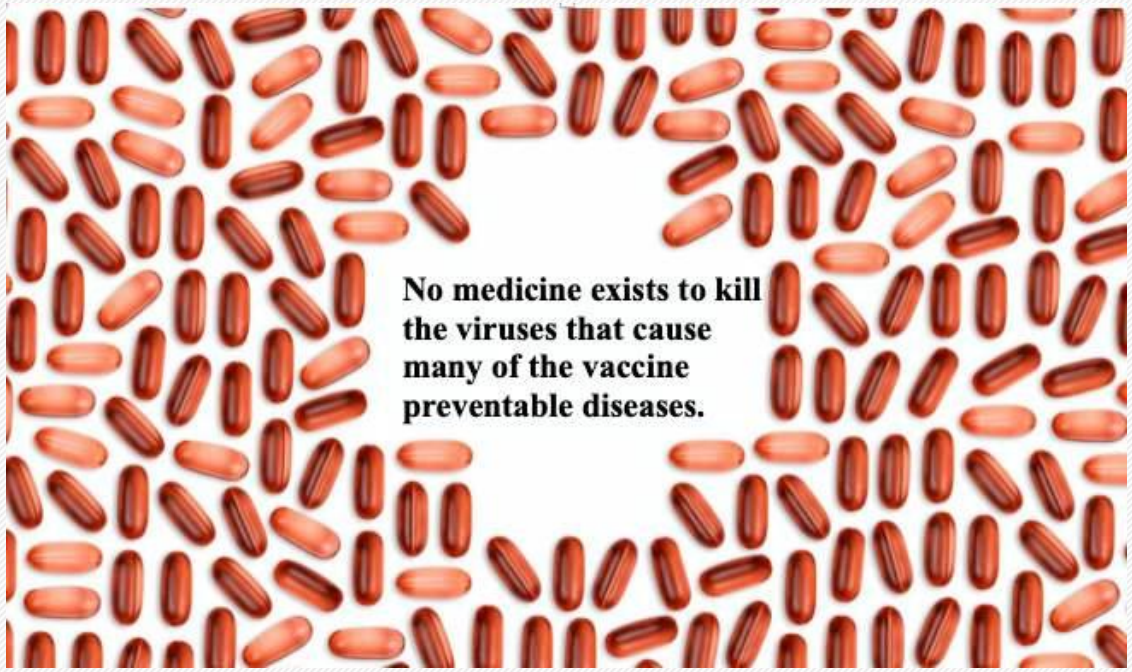
On-time vaccination was and is still the best choice for children and adolescents. **Here's why…**

1) Vaccines are still needed.

Vaccine preventable diseases are still among us.

Dinosaurs are frightening, but extinct. Other than smallpox, the vaccine preventable diseases are still among us. Some diseases such as tetanus and flu will *never* be eradicated.

1) Vaccines are still needed.



There is no medicine to kill many viruses.

Once you are infected with many viruses, we can treat symptoms, but there is no medicine to rid the body of the infection.

1) Vaccines are still needed.

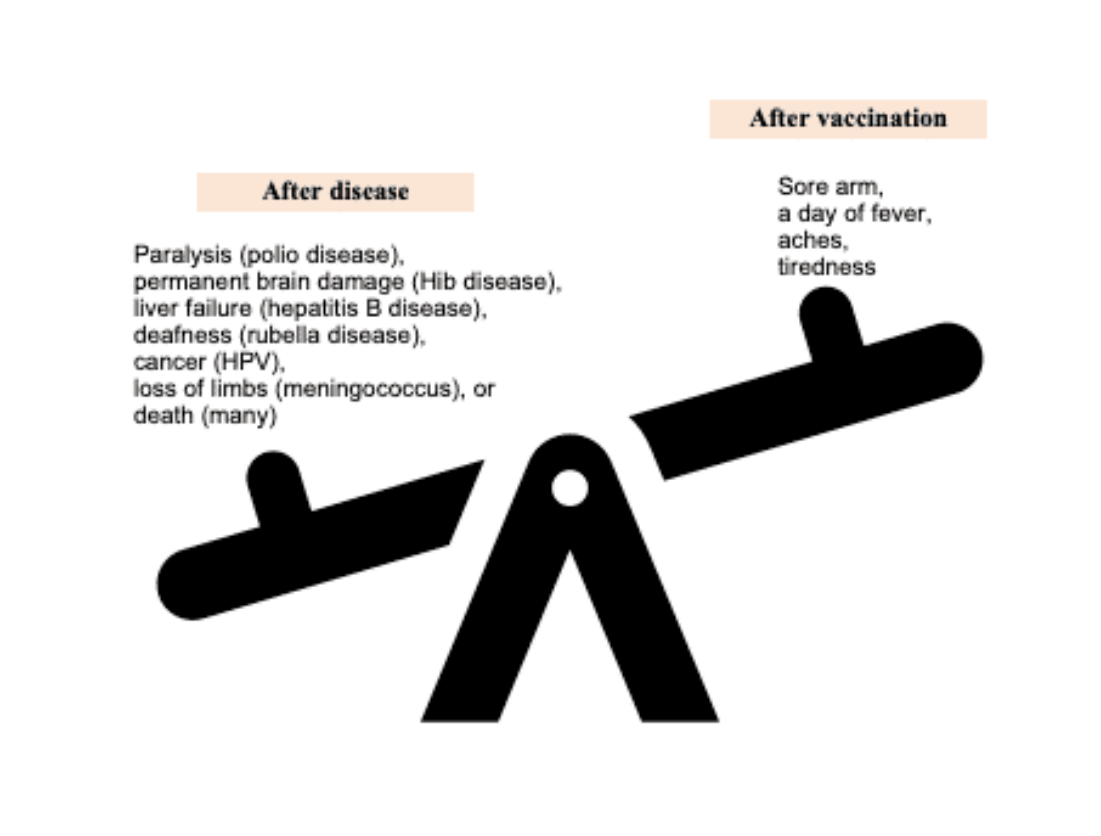
Vaccination is better than natural infection.

Vaccination is better than natural infection because vaccination has LESS side effects.

After vaccination people may have a sore arm, a day of fever, aches, tiredness.

After natural infection people may have:

- Paralysis (polio disease)
- Permanent brain damage (Hib disease)
- Liver failure (hepatitis B disease)
- Deafness (rubella disease)
- Cancer (HPV)
- Loss of limbs (meningococcus)
- Death (many)



1) Vaccines are still needed.

Vaccines help prevent the spread of disease.

Vaccines protect the person who receives them and, indirectly, the people close to them.

1) Vaccines are still needed.

Prevention is better than a cure (or just hoping my loved one is not infected).

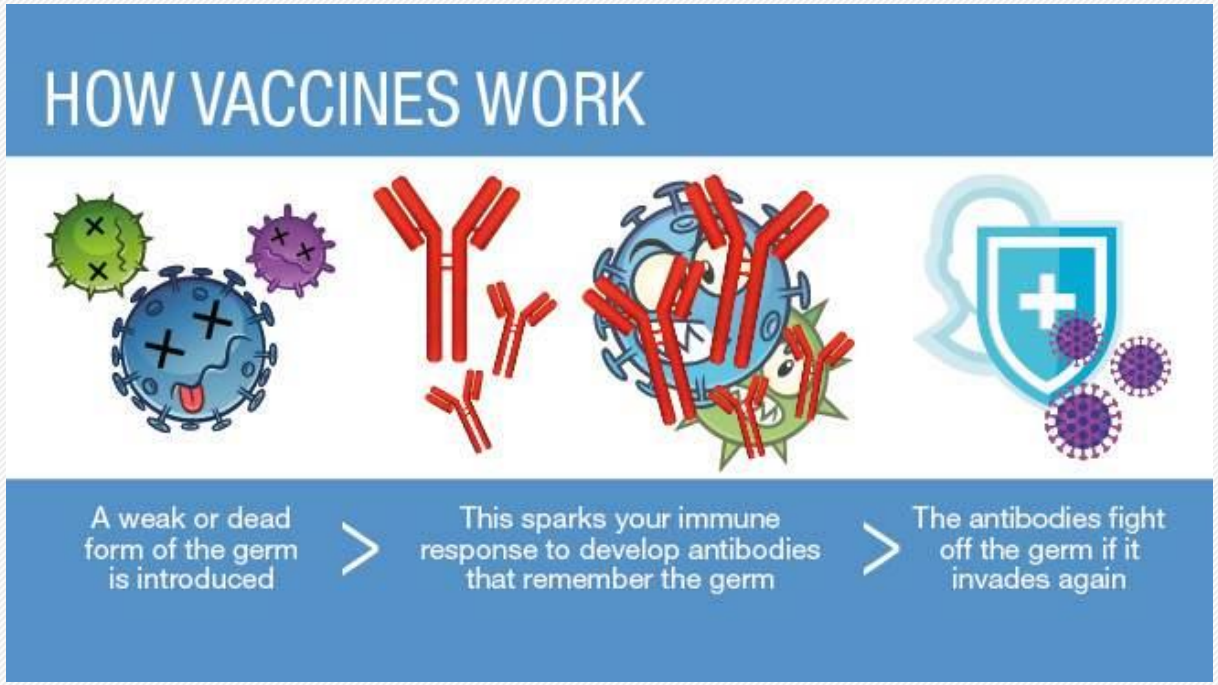
Protection through vaccination has been shown to be more effective and safer.

There is no specific medicine to fight most of the viruses that cause vaccine-preventable diseases. For example, there is no specific medicine against polio virus, HPV, or measles.

2) Vaccines work.

Vaccines work with the natural immune system.

- A vaccine contains some part or parts of the disease germ – called **antigens**. When the antigen is injected, the body recognizes the invader and makes **antibodies**.
- Unlike the actual disease germ, the vaccine does not overwhelm the immune system; the person does not get the disease.
- While the antibodies fight the antigens, the immune system creates **memory cells** to help fight off the disease should the person ever be exposed to it again.



2) Vaccines work.

This system really works!

Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine

HPV vaccines

2) Vaccines work.

This system really works!

After getting a full series of the modern Hib vaccine, more than 95% of infants develop antibody levels high enough to provide protection.

HPV vaccines

2) Vaccines work.

This system really works!

After getting a full series of the modern Hib vaccine, more than 95% of infants develop antibody levels high enough to provide protection.

Scientists did an analysis of data on more than 60 million vaccinated girls in 14 countries. They looked at infections with the 2 most common cancer-causing HPV types.

They found that -- compared with the period before vaccination – these infections decreased by 83% among girls aged 15–19 years.

2) Vaccines are safe.

Vaccine ingredients are safe.

The ingredients in vaccines may sound scary, but most of them are already part of our environments.

2) Vaccines are safe.

Thimerosal

- This organic mercury compound is used in some vaccines as a preservative.
- It was removed from routine childhood immunizations (except some influenza vaccines) as a precaution before further research was done.
- Since then, studies have shown that thimerosal is **quickly cleared from the body** and poses much less of a health risk than other mercury compounds.
- In the amounts that used to be found in vaccines, thimerosal is safe.

IKC IMMUNIZE KANSAS COALITION | BACK TO THE VAX

A GUIDE TO INOCULATING YOURSELF AGAINST ANTI-VAX PROPAGANDA

The Truth About Vaccine Mercury

By Heather Simpson,
Back to the Vax

This myth feels like it is as old as time itself. If I had a dollar for every time someone warned me about mercury in vaccines, I would be rich!

When I was an anti-vaxxer, I remember doing a "Facebook live debate" with a pro-vaxxer in the absolute height of my anti-vaccine beliefs. Then I had an "Oh no, what if I am wrong?" moment. It was at this moment, you see, that I learned and finally understood that there are many different kinds of mercury, including the bad kind of mercury found in fish, and a safe kind found in vaccines. I was frozen with regret when I realized how categorically wrong I had been. I immediately dropped the mercury argument and moved onto a different topic for the debate.

2) Vaccines are safe.

Formaldehyde

- This is used during the manufacturing of some vaccines.
- **Our bodies produce formaldehyde** as a natural byproduct of metabolism. So, we all have formaldehyde in our circulation.
- Very high doses of formaldehyde may pose some risk, but our bodies can handle lower doses.
- The amount of formaldehyde a 2-month old can handle is 1,500 times more than the amount an infant would be exposed to in any individual vaccine.
- **Even a pear** can contain much more formaldehyde than a vaccine (up to 600 times more).

To break down the exact amount that is in vaccines:

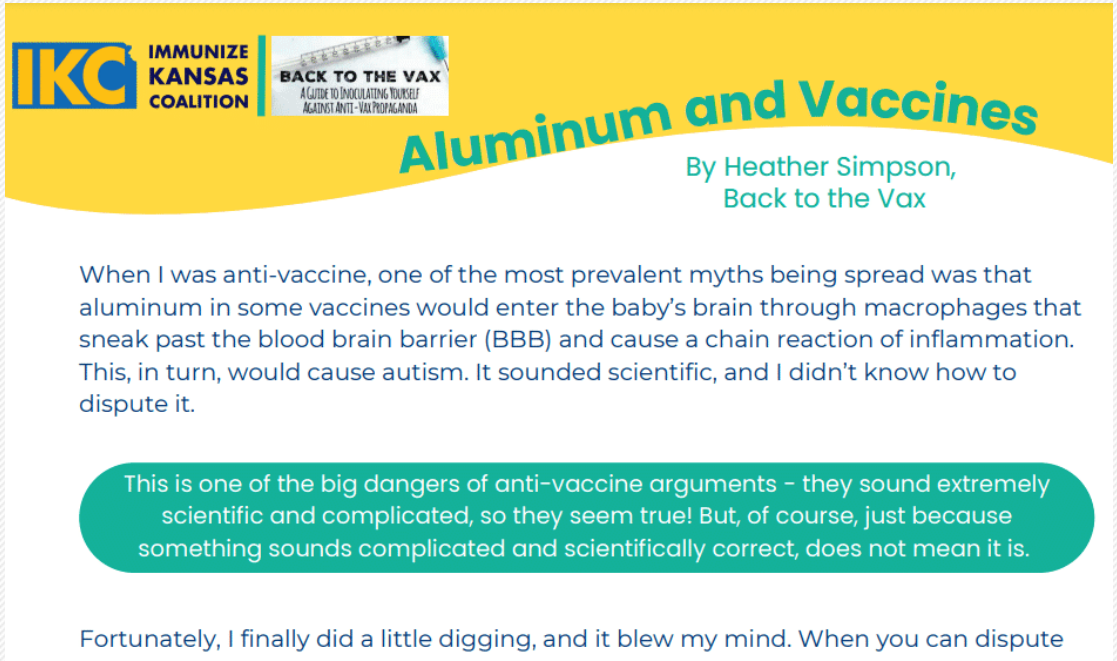
DTaP	Quantity per dose: ≤ 0.005 mg – ≤ 0.1 mg
Polio	Quantity per dose: ≤ 0.02
HepB	Quantity per dose: < 0.0075 mg (pediatric)
Hib	Quantity per dose: < 0.005 mg

As you can see, these numbers are significantly smaller than the amount already found in your child's blood. The dose makes the poison. When someone uses the argument that formaldehyde in vaccines is dangerous, it's easy to feel that there may be a large amount of it being injected. The facts can immediately put this rumor and fear to rest.

2) Vaccines are safe.

Aluminum

- Aluminum is the **third most common mineral** in the earth's crust, so **it's everywhere--**in air, food, breast milk and formula.
- Aluminum salts (not elemental aluminum) are used as an adjuvant in vaccines. Adjuvants help the body's immune system respond to the antigens in vaccines so that smaller amounts of antigens need to be used in our vaccines.
- The amount of aluminum salts in vaccines is miniscule—and is easily processed by young children.



2) Vaccines are safe.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lists the vaccine ingredients in a table.

The table may be helpful for people concerned about particular allergies or ingredients. However, the table does not indicate how much of each ingredient is in the vaccine.

Appendix B

Vaccine Excipient Table

Vaccine (Trade Name)	Package Insert Date	Contains[a]
Adenovirus	10/2019	monosodium glutamate, sucrose, D-mannose, D-fructose, dextrose, human serum albumin, potassium phosphate, plasdone C, anhydrous lactose, microcrystalline cellulose, polacrilin potassium, magnesium stearate, cellulose acetate phthalate, alcohol, acetone, castor oil, FD&C Yellow #6 aluminum lake dye
Anthrax (Biothrax)	11/2015	aluminum hydroxide, sodium chloride, benzethonium chloride, formaldehyde
BCG (Tice)	02/2009	glycerin, asparagine, citric acid, potassium phosphate, magnesium sulfate, iron ammonium citrate, lactose
Cholera (Vaxchora)	06/2016	ascorbic acid, hydrolyzed casein, sodium chloride, sucrose, dried lactose, sodium bicarbonate, sodium carbonate
Dengue (Dengvaxia)	06/2019	sodium chloride, essential amino acids (including L-phenylalanine), non-essential amino acids, L-arginine hydrochloride, sucrose, D-trehalose dihydrate, D-sorbitol, trometamol, urea
DT (Sanofi)	06/2018	aluminum phosphate, isotonic sodium chloride, formaldehyde
DTaP (Daptacel)	01/2021[b]	aluminum phosphate, formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde, 2-phenoxyethanol
DTaP (Infanrix)	01/2021[b]	formaldehyde, aluminum hydroxide, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80 (Tween 80)
DTaP-IPV (Kinrix)	01/2021[b]	formaldehyde, aluminum hydroxide, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80 (Tween 80), neomycin sulfate, polymyxin B
DTaP-IPV (Quadracel)	02/2021	formaldehyde, aluminum phosphate, 2-phenoxyethanol, polysorbate 80, glutaraldehyde, neomycin, polymyxin B sulfate, bovine serum albumin
DTaP-HepB-IPV (Pediarix)	01/2021[b]	formaldehyde, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum phosphate, sodium chloride, polysorbate 80 (Tween 80), neomycin sulfate, polymyxin B, yeast protein
DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel)	12/2019	aluminum phosphate, polysorbate 80, sucrose, formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde, bovine serum albumin, 2-phenoxyethanol, neomycin, polymyxin B sulfate
DTaP-IPV-Hib-HepB (Vaxelis)	10/2020	polysorbate 80, formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde, bovine serum albumin, neomycin, streptomycin sulfate, polymyxin B sulfate, ammonium thiocyanate, yeast protein, aluminum
Ebola Zaire (ERVEBO)	01/2021[b]	Tromethamine, rice-derived recombinant human serum albumin, host cell DNA, benzonase, rice protein
Hib (ActHIB)	05/2019	sodium chloride, formaldehyde, sucrose
Hib (Hiberix)	04/2018	formaldehyde, sodium chloride, lactose
Hib (PedvaxHIB)	01/2021[b]	amorphous aluminum hydroxyphosphate sulfate, sodium chloride
Hep A (Havrix)	01/2021[b]	MRC-5 cellular proteins, formalin, aluminum hydroxide, amino acid supplement,

Discussion Points

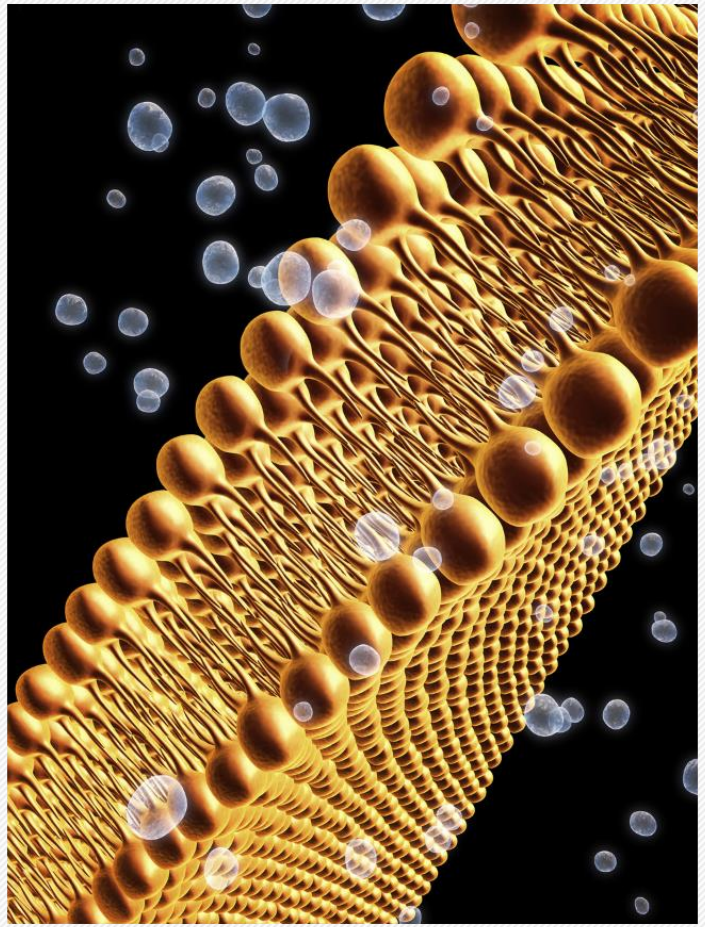
COVID-19 Vaccine

- COVID-19 lockdowns helped reduce illness, but **we all wanted to get back to normal life!**
- Through October 5, 2022, more than 6.4 million 12- to 17-year-olds got COVID-19 and 785 died.
- Parents and physicians hope vaccination makes COVID-19 a thing of the past.
- As of October 2022, there are COVID-19 vaccines (both Pfizer & Moderna) available for children 6 months-4 years and children 5-17 years.

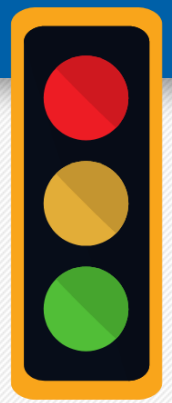
Fetal Cells

Production of varicella, rubella, rabies (one version), hepatitis A, and COVID-19 (one version) vaccines involve growing viruses in human cell culture.

- Two human cell lines provide these cultures; they were developed from two aborted fetuses in the 1960s.
- The donor fetuses **were not aborted for the purpose of obtaining these cells.**
- The same cell lines have been used for many decades – **no new fetal tissue is required.**



School Requirements



We live in communities so we depend on each other to stop at red lights.

Similarly, we ask kids to be vaccinated so they don't put others in their school in danger.

More Resources

Videos from Different Faith Communities in Kansas

Below are 3 videos from *IKC's Honest Conversation Campaign*

- Dr. Presephoni Fuller, Pastor at South Church of God in Liberal, KS
- Rocio Pérez, Mother of Four, Certified Nursing Assistant, and Pastor's Wife in Ulysses, KS
- Fernando Alvarez, Pastor in Garden City, KS

Videos from Different Faiths

by Faiths 4 Vaccines

- Jewish Rabbi - Rabbi Uses Social Media to Reduce Vaccine Hesitancy
- American Baptist Church Pastor - American Baptist Churches USA Encourages All Persons to Receive the Vaccine
- Bethany Baptist Church Pastor – Faith at the Forefront of Vaccination Efforts
- Muslim – Why I took the Vaccine

More Resources

Jewish

- Rabbinical Assembly Statement (COVID-19): https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/Vaccination%20and%20Ethical%20Questions%20Posed%20by%20COVID-19%20Vaccines%20-%20Final.pdf(opens in a new tab)

Christian (Mostly Protestant)

- Biologos: https://biologos.org/common-questions/should-christians-get-vaccinated(opens in a new tab)
- The Gospel Coalition
  - Vaccines in General: https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/what-christians-should-know-vaccines(opens in a new tab)
- Focus on the Family
  - Vaccines in General: https://www.focusonthefamily.com/family-qa/vaccination-and-immunization/(opens in a new tab)
- Christians and the Vaccine (COVID): https://www.christiansandthevaccine.com/(opens in a new tab)
- United Methodist Health Ministry Fund - Faith in Vaccines - Resources for Congregation Leaders: https://healthfund.org/a/faith-in-vaccines(opens in a new tab)

More Resources

Catholic

- Vatican Statement on the Morality of Using Some COVID-19 Vaccines: https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini-anticovid_en.html(opens in a new tab)
- COVID-19 vaccines: https://www.cacatholic.org/CCC-vaccine-moral-acceptability
- As a Catholic, should I take the (COVID-19) vaccine?: https://stfparish.com/pastors-message/as-a-catholic-should-i-take-the-vaccine/
- What does the Catholic church teach about vaccines?: https://angelusnews.com/news/life-family/what-does-the-catholic-church-teach-about-vaccines
- Ethics & Medics - Vaccines Originating in Abortion: https://www.immunize.org/talking-about-vaccines/furton.pdf(opens in a new tab)

Islam

- Interview with an Imam: https://www.interfaithamerica.org/article/faith-and-the-covid-19-vaccine-muslims-were-among-the-first-to-believe-in-vaccines/
- For Muslims wary of the Covid vaccine: there's every religious reason not to be: https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/feb/18/muslims-wary-covid-vaccine-religious-reason
- As A Muslim Doctor, I Don’t Say Vaccination Is Permissible, I say it is Obligatory: https://www.interfaithamerica.org/article/as-a-muslim-doctor-i-dont-say-vaccination-is-permissible-i-say-it-is-obligatory

Reliable Immunization Websites

Immunize Kansas Coalition: : The vision of IKC is to **protect all Kansans from vaccine-preventable diseases** by working with communities to ensure equitable vaccine access for all people and to be the trusted resource for evidence-based information to support immunization decision making for individuals, families, and policy makers.

immunizekansascoalition.org

Voices for Vaccines: We received inspiration & help for this module from the parent-led group, Voices for Vaccines. Voices for Vaccines supports and advocates for on-time vaccination and the reduction of vaccine-preventable disease.

voicesforvaccines.org

More great vaccine websites

- **Vaccine Education Center**: https://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center
- **Immunization Action Coalition:** www.vaccineinformation.org
- **American Academy of Pediatrics**: https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/immunizations
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**: www.cdc.gov/vaccines
- **Vaccinate Your Family**: www.vaccinateyourfamily.org
- **The History of Vaccines**: www.historyofvaccines.org