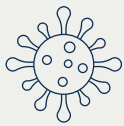


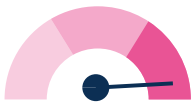
UNDERSTANDING THE RISKS

Getting Measles vs. Getting Vaccinated



We all want to make the best health choices for our children. So how risky is measles compared to the vaccines that prevent measles?

MEASLES FAST FACTS



HOW CONTAGIOUS?

Extremely contagious. A person infected with measles can infect 90% of the non-immune people they come into contact with. The virus can remain in the air for up to 2 hours.^{1,2}



HOW SERIOUS?

Moderate to serious.

Serious complications can include:

Hospitalization: 1 in 5 unvaccinated people³

Pneumonia: 1 in 20 children—pneumonia is the most common cause of death from measles in young children.³

Encephalitis (swelling of the brain): 1 in 1,000 children—encephalitis can cause permanent deafness, brain damage, and intellectual disability.³

Death: 1–3 in 1,000 children from measles complications³

Pregnancy complications: Premature birth, babies with low birthweight³



Infants and children under age 5 are at higher risk for severe illness and complications.³

VACCINE FAST FACTS



HOW EFFECTIVE?

2 doses of the MMR vaccine are 97% effective at preventing measles.⁴



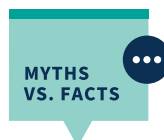
HOW SAFE?

All the research shows the vaccines are safe, and millions of children have safely gotten a vaccine.^{4,5,6}



SAFETY RECORDS

Measles vaccines were first given in 1963. The MMR vaccine was introduced in 1971 and MMRV vaccines have been licensed since 2005.^{1,6}



MYTH BUSTER

Does the MMR vaccine cause autism? No. Years of research that included more than half a million children found there is NO link between the MMR vaccine and autism.^{8,9,10} Learn more at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccine-safety/about/autism.html>.



Five separate safety systems continuously monitor all vaccines for as long as the vaccines are given.¹⁰

Learn more at hhs.gov/immunization/basics/safety/index.html.

COMPARING THE TWO

MEASLES

VACCINES TO PREVENT MEASLES

Common Mild to Moderate Symptoms and Common Side Effects^{1,3,11,12}

Common symptoms of measles last about 1–3 weeks and can include:

- High fever (104° F to 105.8° F)
- Cough
- Red spots with white centers on the inside of the cheek
- Full-body rash
- Inflamed eyes
- Ear infections
- Diarrhea

Common side effects of vaccines to prevent measles are usually mild and last 1–2 days. If side effects occur, they can include:

- Soreness
- Fever
- Mild, non-contagious rash
- Swollen glands in the cheeks or neck

Rare, More Serious Symptoms or Complications and Rare Side Effects^{1,3,11,12,13}

Serious symptoms or complications of measles vary and can include:

- Pneumonia
- Encephalitis (swelling of the brain)
- Clotting disorder

Serious side effects of vaccines to prevent measles vary and can include:

- Seizures caused by fever
- Temporary blood clotting disorder (low platelet count)
- Temporary pain or stiffness in the joints

Sources:

1. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia: <https://www.chop.edu/vaccine-education-center/vaccine-details/measles-mumps-and-rubella-vaccines>
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/index.html>
3. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/signs-symptoms>
4. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mmr/hcp/index.html>
5. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccine-safety/vaccines/mmr.html>
6. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/pinkbook/hcp/table-of-contents/chapter-13-measles.html>
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10. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: <https://www.hhs.gov/immunization/basics/safety/index.html>
11. Boston Children's Hospital: <https://www.childrenshospital.org/conditions/measles-rubeola>
12. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/current-vis/downloads/mmr.pdf>
13. Health Resources and Services Administration: <https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/vicp/vaccine-injury-table-01-03-2022.pdf>