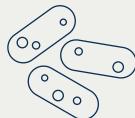


UNDERSTANDING THE RISKS

Getting Hib vs. Getting Vaccinated

(HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE TYPE B)



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

HIB FAST FACTS



HOW CONTAGIOUS?

Contagious. Close contact can lead to outbreaks in the home, child care, or school.¹



HOW SERIOUS?

Very serious. Hib is different from most vaccine-preventable diseases. The bacteria that cause Hib can be present in a person's body without making them sick. But sometimes those bacteria cause Hib disease. Some people develop Hib disease when the bacteria move to other parts of the body.² But serious complications of Hib disease can include:

Hospitalization: Most children will require hospitalization.¹

Hib meningitis: As many as 1 in 5 children who survive Hib meningitis will have brain damage or become deaf.³

Epiglottitis (throat infection): 17 in 100 people—epiglottitis can be fatal^{1,4}

Death: About 1 in 20 children³



Children younger than age 5 are at the highest risk of complications from Hib disease. Before the vaccines, Hib disease was the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in children younger than 5.^{4,5}

VACCINE FAST FACTS



HOW EFFECTIVE?

The Hib vaccines are more than 95% effective in infants after 2 or 3 doses.^{3,6}



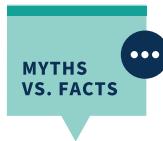
HOW SAFE?

Millions of children have safely received the vaccines.⁷



SAFETY RECORDS

The first Hib vaccine was used in 1985. A Hib conjugate vaccine was licensed in 1987. Conjugate vaccines combine two antigens—substances that cause the immune system to respond and help young children's immune systems better recognize bacteria.¹



MYTH BUSTER

Is natural immunity better than vaccine immunity? No. Gaining natural immunity by having Hib disease puts children at risk for brain damage, blood infections, and death.^{1,8}



Five separate safety systems continuously monitor all vaccines for as long as the vaccines are given.⁹

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

COMPARING THE TWO

HIB DISEASE

Common symptoms of Hib disease can include:

- Mild infections such as middle ear infection (otitis media)

VACCINES TO PREVENT HIB DISEASE

Common side effects of vaccines to prevent Hib disease are usually mild and go away on their own. If side effects occur, they can include:

- Soreness, heat, redness, or swelling where the vaccine was given
- Fever
- Irritability
- Loss of appetite

Rare, More Serious Symptoms or Complications and Rare Side Effects^{1,2,3,10,11}

Serious symptoms or complications of Hib disease vary and can include:

- Sepsis (an extreme response to an infection)
- Pneumonia (lung infection)
- Septic arthritis (infection of the joints)
- Osteomyelitis (bone infection)
- Cellulitis (infection of skin and underlying tissues)
- Pericarditis (infection of lining of the heart)
- Meningitis (swelling of the lining of the brain and spinal cord)
- Epiglottitis (throat infection)
- Bacteremia (bloodstream infection)

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

- Crying
- Abdominal pain, diarrhea, or vomiting
- Rash
- High fever
- Unable to sleep

Sources:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/pinkbook/hcp/table-of-contents/chapter-8-haemophilus-influenzae.html>
2. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/hi-disease/about/index.html>
3. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/hi-disease/hcp/clinicians>
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9. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: <https://www.hhs.gov/immunization/basics/safety/index.html>
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11. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/hi-disease/symptoms>