

CHILDHOOD VACCINATION: MYTH & FACTS

1

VACCINES CAN CAUSE DISORDERS SUCH AS AUTISM

Vaccines help to build your child's immune system so it can resist harmful diseases. Children are vaccinated around the same age as when autism is often diagnosed, some believe vaccines and autism are linked, but they're not. Vaccines do not cause autism!

2

MATERIALS USED IN VACCINES ARE UNSAFE

Before a new vaccine is ever given to people, extensive lab testing is done that can take several years. Once testing in people begins, it can take several more years before clinical studies are complete and the vaccine is licensed.

FDA licenses a vaccine only if:
-It's safe and effective
-Benefits outweigh risks

3

"NATURAL" IMMUNITY IS BETTER THAN VACCINE IMMUNITY

Natural infection from certain diseases can kill or seriously harm your child before his/her body is able to develop a strong immune system. Vaccines use harmless or inactive viruses or bacteria to trigger the body's natural immune response to provide long-term protection against a disease, without the risk of getting the disease. Vaccination is like a rehearsal for the immune system, so it prepared if your child is exposed to the "real" disease.



4

HERD IMMUNITY WILL PROVIDE ENOUGH PROTECTION

Herd immunity does not provide any actual protection against a disease, it only means you are less likely to contract a disease because others are vaccinated.

DID YOU KNOW...

- Vaccines have helped eradicate small pox worldwide. The last small pox was in Samalia in 1977.
- Scientists are working hard to find new vaccines for diseases including Lyme disease and malaria.
- You can schedule your child to get immunizations at the Health Department's Shots 4 Tot 'N Teens clinic today! Call 419.213.4121.