

# Top Ten Reasons to Protect Your Child by Vaccinating

*Here are the top ten reasons to protect your child by vaccinating them against serious diseases.*

**1** Parents want to do all they can to be sure their children are healthy and protected from diseases. Vaccination is the best way to do that.

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**2** Vaccination protects children from serious illness. Vaccines prevent diseases that can lead to loss of an arm or leg, needing hospital care, pneumonia, hearing loss, convulsions, brain damage, and death.

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**3** Vaccination can prevent diseases such as measles, whooping cough, COVID-19, and influenza that are still a threat. These diseases keep harming U.S. children and leading to hospital care and deaths every year.

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**4** Some diseases, such as measles, are still common in other countries. A traveler can bring the disease to the U.S., or your child can get it while traveling.

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**5** Outbreaks of diseases that could be prevented by vaccination occur when many parents decide not to vaccinate their children.

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**6** Vaccination is safe and it works! Scientists, doctors, and the U.S. government do long and careful reviews of each vaccine to be sure they are safe.

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**7** Trusted leaders in the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention all strongly support protecting children with recommended vaccinations. And, they get their own kids vaccinated!

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**8** Vaccination protects others you care about, including family members, friends, and community members.

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**9** If children aren't vaccinated, they can spread disease to others. Disease could spread to another child who is too young to be vaccinated. It could spread to a person with a weak immune system due to cancer and certain medicines. No one wants to cause these vulnerable people long-term harm or even death.

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**10** We all work to make our communities stronger and to protect each other and each other's children. Vaccinating our own family members is the best for them and our communities.

