

Frequently Asked Questions: Immunizing Your Child

AS A MOTHER-TO-BE, I WOULD LIKE TO READ MORE ABOUT IMMUNIZING MY BABY BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START. WHERE CAN I FIND BOOKS ON THIS TOPIC?

Immunization saves lives. Vaccinating your child on time will protect him/her from dangerous and deadly diseases and help reduce the spread of disease in your community. The amount of information available about immunizations can be overwhelming and sometimes inaccurate. To help sort through the various books on vaccines, the following list may be of use. Most are reasonably priced and all contain accurate and reliable information about vaccines and childhood immunization.

1. [Your Child's Best Shot: A Parents Guide to Vaccination – 2nd Edition](#). This common-sense parent guide clears up the confusion and answers key questions on the functionality, necessity, efficacy, and safety of vaccines. Newly expanded and revised, and written in a reassuring, parent-friendly style, the text includes questions and answers about vaccinations, statistics on the diseases vaccinations help prevent, and more, all designed to help parents make informed decisions about immunization. Published by the Canadian Paediatric Society. Price: \$19.95 (paperback).
2. [Vaccine Education Center](#) at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia has developed a VHS tape and booklet entitled "Vaccines and Your Baby." The video is 29 minutes long and describes diseases prevented by vaccines, the science of vaccines, the concept of immunity, how vaccines work, and how they are made. The video includes a computer animated look at the science of vaccines and answers to several questions parents have about vaccines. DVD versions are available as well. Price: \$5.00 (shipping).
3. [Vaccinating Your Child: Questions and Answers for the Concerned Parent](#) by S.G. Humiston, MD, MPH, and Cynthia Good (Peachtree Publishers, 2nd edition). This book addresses the medical, ethical, and legal issues related to immunization to help parents make informed decisions about individual vaccines. Price: \$14.95 (paperback).
4. [Vaccines: What Every Parent Should Know](#) by P.A. Offit, MD, and L.M. Bell, MD (Wiley, 3rd edition, 2003). A book for parents who want to know detailed information about the vaccines given to their children. Price: \$14.95 (paperback).
5. [Parents Guide to Childhood Immunization](#). A 94-page booklet from the National Immunization Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that introduces parents to 12 childhood diseases and the vaccines that can protect children from them. Price: Free (download).
6. [Vaccinations: What Parents Need to Know](#) by the American Council of Science and Health (ACSH). This report is based on a special report written for ACSH by Dr. David R. Smith, President of the Texas Tech Medical Center, pediatrician, and vaccine expert, summarizes the evidence on both the benefits and the potential risks of vaccines, with an emphasis on the vaccines used in routine childhood immunization. Price: Free (download).

Still Have Questions? E-mail: cispimmunize@aap.org

