

Immunization Information

Thanks to vaccines, we can build and maintain stronger immune systems to protect ourselves and our communities against serious, often preventable illnesses like measles, flu, COVID and more.

TERMS TO KNOW

IMMUNITY - Protection from an infectious disease. When immune, you can be exposed to a disease without being infected.

VACCINE - A substance used to stimulate the body's immune response to fight diseases.

VACCINATION - The process of introducing a vaccine into the body to create protection from a specific disease.

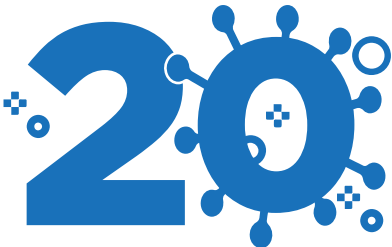
IMMUNIZATION - the process by which a person becomes protected against a disease through vaccination.



Some diseases that have been eliminated in the U.S. are still common in other countries. Certain vaccines may be required to travel abroad.

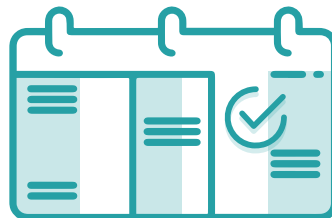
VACCINE BASICS

Today vaccines protect against more than



infectious diseases.

The Louisiana Department of Health partners with the CDC to provide a recommended Immunization Schedule for children and adults.



FLU IS THE DEADLIEST VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASE IN THE U.S.

ELIMINATED ≠ ERADICATED

Many infectious diseases have been virtually eliminated in the U.S. through regular vaccination, but need continued vaccination to stay away.

SOME VACCINES ARE UP TO —

99%

EFFECTIVE AT PREVENTING ILLNESS.

HPV vaccination helps protect against 6 types of cancer:
Cervical • Vaginal • Penile • Vulvar • Anal • Oropharyngeal





THE FIRST SUCCESSFULLY DEVELOPED VACCINE WAS FOR SMALLPOX.

AN INDIVIDUAL FULLY VACCINATED AGAINST MUMPS IS

88% LESS LIKELY

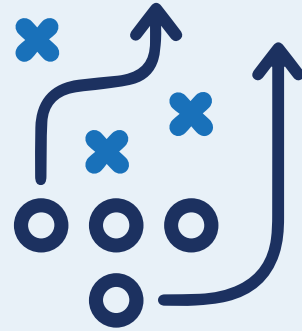
TO GET THE DISEASE.

PROTECT COMMUNITIES

When enough people in a setting are vaccinated against a disease, the germs cannot travel as easily and are less likely to spread, giving the community a better chance at collective immunity, known as **HERD IMMUNITY.**



HOW VACCINES WORK: YOUR BODY'S PLAN FOR THE BIG GAME



DEFENSE PLAN: Vaccines prompt the immune system to find visiting diseases (antigens).

PRACTICE SQUAD: Antigens train the immune system to recognize and fight diseases.

PLAYBOOK: The immune system learns how to beat diseases and keeps a record of plays.

GAME DAY: If a disease enters the body, the immune system puts the plan into action.

CHAMPIONS: The disease is defeated, providing lasting protection without the risk of infection.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The math tells the story. The cost of using vaccines to prevent diseases is far less than the cost of treating the infections these diseases cause.

For every \$1 spent on childhood vaccination, the U.S. saves \$10.90 in treating disease.

Each year, it costs \$27 billion to treat adults over 50 for vaccine-preventable diseases.



VACCINE SAFETY



The U.S. currently has the **safest vaccine supply** in its history.

Side effects are usually **rare and mild.**

Vaccines go through **careful testing** to make sure they are safe and effective.

A vaccine goes through **3 phases** of clinical trials before being approved.

FDA only licenses a vaccine after clinical trials if:

- It's proven **safe and effective.**
- The **benefits outweigh risks.**