

Questions to ask your pediatrician about vaccines

A guide to help parents make informed decisions.

It's perfectly natural to have questions about vaccines; most parents do. Your pediatrician welcomes these conversations and is prepared to provide the clear, reliable answers you need to make confident decisions for your family.

Not sure what to ask? We've got you covered. Here are some conversation starters to help you get the information you need.

Understanding recommendations

- ☐ "Which vaccines are routinely recommended at this age?"
- ☐ "What factors should I consider when deciding today?"

Benefits & risks

- ☐ "What are the benefits of this vaccine for my child?"
- ☐ "What risks or side effects should I know about?"
- ☐ "How do the risks of the disease compare to the risks of the vaccine?"

Timing & scheduling

- ☐ "Can we space vaccines out or combine any today?"
- ☐ "Is there a preferred timing for certain vaccines?"
- ☐ "What happens if my child is behind schedule? Where should we start?"

Your child's medical history

- ☐ "How does my child's health history affect which vaccines they should get?"
- ☐ "Is there anything that would make you recommend a different vaccine schedule for my child?"

Preparing for after the shot

- ☐ "What should I expect after the vaccine?"
- ☐ "When should I call the office if something doesn't seem right?"
- ☐ "Is there anything I should or shouldn't give my child after the shot?"

Clarifying advice from others

- ☐ "I read/heard something about this vaccine. Is it true? Can you help me understand whether it applies to my child?"
- ☐ "Is this source reliable? Where do you get your vaccine information?"

If you're unsure or need more time

- ☐ "Can you walk me through that again in simpler terms?"
- ☐ "Can you explain what most parents in our situation choose?"
- ☐ "What trustworthy resources do you recommend for learning more?"

Other questions

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Notes: _____

Remember: No question is too small. Your pediatrician's job is to explain options and help you make an informed decision. Take the time you need to feel comfortable with your choices.



For more resources, visit
[WolfsonChildrens.com/TalkVaccines](https://www.wolfsonchildrens.com/TalkVaccines).