Reliable Sources of Immunization Information: Where to go to find answers!

Websites

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
www.aap.org/immunization  AAP’s childhood immunization website contains information for both parents and clinicians.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
www.cdc.gov/vaccines  The information on this website ranges from official vaccine recommendations for healthcare professionals to information for the general public about vaccines.

Every Child by Two (ECBT)  www.ecbt.org and www.vaccinateyourbaby.org  ECBT, founded by Rosalynn Carter and Betty Bumpers, has created these two websites. Each contains a broad array of educational materials and information about vaccines, their safety, vaccine research and science, vaccine misperceptions, and many other topics to help clinicians and parents.

Immunization Action Coalition (IAC)
www.imunize.org and www.vaccineinformation.org  IAC is a nonprofit organization that promotes immunization for all people against vaccine-preventable diseases. These websites offer educational materials, photos, and video clips for parents, healthcare professionals, the media, and the general public.

National Network for Immunization Information (NNii)  www.immunizationinfo.org  NNii provides current, science-based, extensively reviewed information to healthcare professionals, the media, policy makers, and the public.

U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services (HHS)
www.vaccines.gov  Vaccines.gov is the federal gateway to information on vaccines and immunizations for infants, children, teenagers, adults, and seniors.

Vaccine Education Center (VEC)  www.vaccine.chop.edu  The goal of the VEC at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia is to accurately communicate the facts about each childhood vaccine. VEC publishes a monthly vaccine e-newsletter for parents titled “Parents PACK.” For more information or to subscribe, visit www.vaccine.chop.edu/parents

Phone Numbers

CDC-INFO Contact Center
A toll-free number for consumers and healthcare professionals who have questions about immunization and vaccine-preventable diseases. Call (800) CDC-INFO or (800) 232-4636. The Center operates 24/7 in English & Spanish. TTY: (888) 232-6348.

Books for Parents

Baby 411, 4th edition
By Denise Fields and Ari Brown, MD, Windsor Peak Press. 2009. Written by a Harvard-trained pediatrician (Brown) and the author of the best-selling Baby Bargains (Fields), this book is the ultimate compilation of frequently asked questions for baby’s first year. It includes a special section on vaccines. To purchase, visit your local bookstore or www.windsorpeak.com/baby411.

By Martin Myers, MD, and Diego Pineda, MS. Published by Immunizations for Public Health, 2008. Get straight, science-based answers to parents’ questions about the safety of vaccines. To purchase, visit your local bookstore or www.dovaccinescausethat.com.

Parents Guide to Childhood Immunization, 2010
This 68-page booklet from CDC introduces parents to 14 childhood diseases and the 10 vaccines that can protect children from them. Parents can order a free booklet or print their own copy by visiting www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/parents-guide.

Plain Talk About Childhood Immunization, 6th edition
Washington State Department of Health, et al., 2008. This 54-page booklet provides parents with accurate information about immunizations and the diseases they prevent, vaccine safety, and other topics of interest to the public. The publication, available in English and Spanish, can be downloaded at http://here.doh.wa.gov/materials/plain-talk-about-childhood-immunizations in either low resolution (for printing on office copiers) or high resolution (for professional printing).

Vaccines and Your Child, Separating Fact from Fiction, 2011
By Paul Offit, MD, and Charlotte Moser, Columbia University Press, 2011. This book answers questions about the science and safety of modern vaccines. In straightforward prose, Offit and Moser explain how vaccines work, how they are made, and how they are tested. Most important, they separate the real risks of vaccines from feared but unfounded risks. To purchase, visit your local bookstore or www.cup.columbia.edu.

Videos

“Vaccines and Your Baby” and “Vaccines: Separating Fact from Fear” Available for a nominal charge in English and Spanish in DVD format, these videos answer many questions that new parents have. Ordering information is available at www.chop.edu/service/vaccine-education-center/familyOrder.cfm or parents can watch the videos online at www.chop.edu/service/vaccine-education-center/related-information/multimedia.html.