



PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

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NEWS

VACCINATE CHILDREN ON SCHEDULE FOR BEST PROTECTION

National Infant Immunization Week April 24 – May 1

HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO – Immunizations are one of the most effective ways to prevent serious illness in children and adults. Pediatric immunization programs in the United States have been quite successful in reducing the number of children affected by a range of highly contagious diseases that were once common in this country.

National Infant Immunization Week, April 24 – May 1, is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs in promoting healthy communities.

Vaccines are among the most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death. They not only help protect vaccinated individuals, but also help protect entire communities by preventing and reducing the spread of infectious diseases. Infants are particularly vulnerable to infectious diseases; that is why it is critical to protect them through immunization.

“It is especially important for children to be vaccinated on schedule starting at two months and continuing with the basic series at 4, 6, 12 and 15 -18 months of age,” Tim Ingram, Health Commissioner said. “Children who start their immunizations on time are more likely to complete their series by 24 months of age.”

Immunizations are extremely safe. Vaccines are thoroughly tested before being approved for public use and monitored carefully by doctors, researchers and public health officials. Vaccines not only prevent disease, they reduce the costs associated with missed time from work, doctor visits and hospitalizations.

“I encourage parents to talk with a trusted health care provider about their vaccine questions and concerns,” Ingram said. “Withholding vaccines places the child at risk for actual infection that may have serious damage on the child’s health.”

Reliable vaccine information is just a click away at www.cdc.gov or www.aap.org. Also visit Hamilton County Public Health at www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org for immunization schedules, clinic locations and more information to help keep your child healthy.

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