

# Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella MMRV (combined) Vaccine



**Don't Wait, Vaccinate!**

This vaccine protects against four diseases, measles, mumps, rubella and varicella. The more people who are immunized in your community, the more protection your community will have against these diseases.

Diseases	Measles symptoms:	Mumps symptoms:	Rubella symptoms: (German Measles)	Varicella symptoms: (Chickenpox)
	Rash Cough Fever Conjunctivitis (pink eye) Generally feeling unwell	Fever Headache Swollen & painful glands near jawbone Respiratory symptoms	Rash Swollen glands Arthritis (especially in women)	Fever Many small blisters Flu-like symptoms Itching
Possible complications:	Possible complications:	Possible complications:	Possible complications:	Possible complications:
	Ear infection (5-9% of cases) Pneumonia (1-5% of cases) Seizures Premature labour & miscarriage Permanent brain damage (1 case per 1,000) Death (1 case per 3,000)	Meningitis Deafness Testicular infection (possible sterility) Ovarian infection (possible sterility)	Miscarriage in pregnant women Malformations in infants when mother infected during first 10 weeks of pregnancy	Ear infections Pneumonia Secondary skin infections Encephalitis (brain infection) Malformations in infants (when mother infected in pregnancy) Shingles (15-30% over lifetime) Death

Vaccination is the best way to protect a child or yourself against measles, mumps, rubella and varicella. Children receive the MMR vaccine at 12 months and the varicella vaccine at 15 months. The MMRV, given at 4-6 years of age, provides the necessary boosting effect to provide improved protection against these four diseases.

The MMRV vaccine is safe. In most cases, it does not cause any undesirable reactions. **Speak to your healthcare provider if there is a history of allergies or weakened immune system/medications that suppress the immune system.** The MMRV vaccine should not be given if the person:

- Has a high fever or serious infection more severe than a cold (it is better to wait until they recover)
- Is pregnant, think they may be pregnant or are trying to become pregnant (wait until one month after the vaccine)
- Has a severe allergy to any vaccine against measles, mumps, rubella and/or varicella or any component of the vaccine including gelatin or an antibiotic called neomycin
- A personal or family history of febrile seizures of any etiology (vaccinate with MMR and varicella vaccines separately)
- Has recently received a blood product (e.g. serum immune globulin). Should then wait 3 to 12 months before getting the MMRV vaccine depending upon which blood product was received
- Has had another injectable or nasally administered live vaccine (e.g. BCG or Yellow Fever) in the last 28 days

Vaccine	Possible side effects:	What to do:
	May experience swelling, redness and/or tenderness around the injection site.	Apply a cold, damp cloth to the area.
Vaccine	Feeling tired with a mild fever and/or development of a non-contagious rash (5 to 12 days after vaccination). A high fever may occur on rare occasions. This may cause a seizure in children.	See a health care provider if you are concerned about symptoms.
	Joint pain, stiff neck or swelling of the glands near the jaw may occur weeks after vaccination.	See a health care provider if you are concerned about symptoms.
Vaccine	Severe allergic reactions are very rare. Most severe reactions occur shortly after receiving the vaccine.	It is important to wait 15 minutes after the injection for observation before leaving the clinic. Seek immediate medical attention if experiencing a severe reaction.

**For more information go to:**

[www.immunize.ca](http://www.immunize.ca)

[www.healthcanada.gc.ca/vaccinate](http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca/vaccinate)

[www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca)