



Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau  
Vaccination saves lives



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# What might happen after your child has had a vaccine

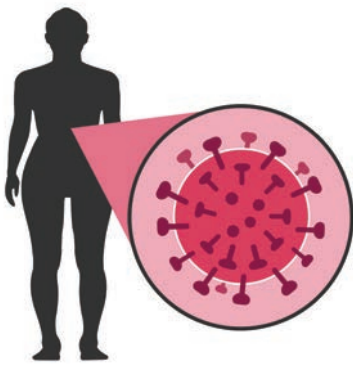


Mae'r daflen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg. You can get this leaflet in Welsh



## About this leaflet

You have been given this leaflet because your child has had a **vaccine**.



A **vaccine** is a medicine that helps to keep you safe from catching an illness.



This leaflet tells you about things your child might feel after having a vaccine for:

- Meningitis.
- Rotavirus.
- MMRV.
- Flu.

## Side effects



**Side effects** are things that might happen to your child after they have had a vaccine.



Most babies don't have side effects.



Straight after having the vaccine, your child might be a bit upset. They might cry a bit.



Common side effects should only last for 1 or 2 days.



Common side effects are a swollen or red arm or leg where they had the injection.

Or they might have a small lump.



Other common side effects older children might feel after a vaccine are:

- A high temperature of more than 38 degrees on a thermometer.



- Feeling very tired.



- Having aches in their body.



- Having a headache.



- Not being very hungry.

## If your child has a fever after a vaccine



A **fever** is when you have a high temperature of 38 degrees or more on a thermometer.

If your child has any of these things you should check their temperature:



- Your child's face feels hot when you touch it.



- Red cheeks.



If your child has a fever or is unwell, you can give them paracetamol.



Remember to read the instructions on the packet.



There is a medicine called aspirin that is like paracetamol.

Do not give your child aspirin.  
Children under age 16 should not take aspirin.

## What to do if your child has a fever:



- Make sure your child is not wearing too many clothes.



- Do not cover your child with lots of blankets.



- Make sure your child has lots to drink.

For babies you might need to give them milk more often.



Do not:

- Put your child in the bath or give them a wash

or



- Blow a fan on them.

## When you should speak to a doctor



Phone your doctor straight away if your child:



- Has a temperature of 39 degrees or more

or

- Has a fit or a seizure.

This is when someone might fall to the ground and start jerking and shaking their body.





If your doctors surgery is closed and your child is really poorly, you should:



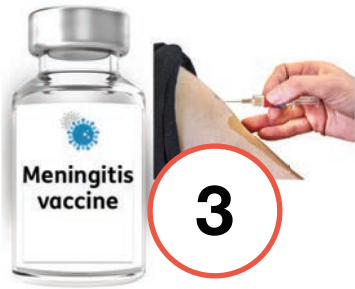
- Phone NHS **111** Wales

**or**



- Go to **Accident and Emergency** at the hospital.  
This is called **A&E** for short.

## After the meningitis B vaccine



The meningitis B vaccine is done by giving your child 3 lots of injections.



The 1st injection is done when they are 8 weeks old.



The 2nd injection is done when they are 12 weeks old.



The 3rd injection is done when they are 1 year old.



When your child has had all 3 injections they are protected by the vaccine.



A lot of babies have a fever after their 1st and 2nd injections.



It is a good idea to give them paracetamol after they have had the injection.



This will help stop them getting a fever or make them feel a bit better if they do get one.



A **dose** is an amount of medicine you give a child.

1 dose of paracetamol is 2.5ml.  
You can measure this using a medicine syringe or spoon.



For the 1st and 2nd injections give your baby:

- 1 dose of paracetamol straight after they have had the vaccine.
- A 2nd dose 4 to 6 hours after the 1st dose.
- A 3rd dose 4 to 6 hours after the 2nd dose.



If your baby is very small or was born early, speak to your doctor.

They will tell you the right amount of paracetamol to give your child.



Your child is less likely to have a fever after the 3rd injection.

You do not need to give them paracetamol unless they are feeling unwell.



## After the rotavirus vaccine

After the rotavirus vaccine, your baby might be a bit upset.



Some babies might also poo a lot or have more runny or soft poo.



## Rare side effects

**Rare** means that it does not happen to many people.



Some babies may have a tummy ache or be sick after the vaccine.



Your baby might have poo that looks a bit like red jelly.

This usually happens within 7 days of having the vaccine.



If this happens, or you are worried, you should:



- Phone your doctor straight away.



- Phone NHS **111** Wales.



- Go to A&E at the hospital.

## After the measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox vaccine



This vaccine is called **MMRV** for short.

The side effects for the **MMRV** vaccine might not all happen at the same time.

After 6 to 10 days your child might get these side effects:



- A rash.



- A high temperature of more than 38 degrees on a thermometer.



- Not feel hungry.



At around 2 to 3 weeks some children might get:



- Lumps in their throat and neck

**and**



- A high temperature of more than 38 degrees on a thermometer.



Your child might get a rash up to 6 weeks after the vaccine.

This is rare. It does not happen to very many children.

## After the flu vaccine



Most children have the flu vaccine as a spray up their nose.

This is called a **nasal spray**.



After the nasal spray, your child might have a runny or blocked nose for a few days.

They might also:



- Feel unwell and have a little bit of a temperature.



- Have a headache.



- Not feel very hungry.



Side effects from the nasal spray do not last very long.

They do not usually make children feel very poorly.

# Allergies



Some children might be allergic to a vaccine.

An allergic reaction usually starts a few minutes after having the vaccine.



Your child might find it hard to breathe or they might also fall to the floor.



Having an allergic reaction is very rare.

Not many children are allergic.



The nurse who gives your child the vaccine has had special training.

They will know what to do straight away if your child is allergic to the vaccine.

## More information



If you want more information about the vaccines, you can speak to your doctor.



You can also phone NHS 111 Wales.

### **Phone 111**

It is free to call this number.



You can look on the Public Health Wales website:

**[phw.nhs.wales/vaccines](https://phw.nhs.wales/vaccines)**



To find out how the NHS uses your information, visit:

**[111.wales.nhs.uk/AboutUs/Yourinformation](https://111.wales.nhs.uk/AboutUs/Yourinformation)**