

# POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF VACCINES

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Like any other drug, vaccines too may have **undesirable effects**, such as:

**LOCAL UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS,**  
I.E., AT THE INJECTION SITE OR,  
LESS COMMONLY,  
**GENERAL UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS, SUCH AS ALLERGIC REACTIONS!**



### SHOULDER AND LEG

Redness or swelling at the injection site: it does not depend on the healthcare worker and it goes away in a couple of weeks<sup>2</sup>



### BODY

- Your child "is a little sluggish": s/he is not feeling well and is irritable for 24-48 hours but is easy to comfort<sup>2</sup>
- Skin rash (exanthema): may occur more often after the measles vaccine, 7-10 days after injection and goes away spontaneously<sup>3</sup>



### ABDOMEN

Diarrhoea: may occur with oral vaccines such as the Rotavirus vaccine<sup>4</sup>



### FEVER AND PAIN

- **Fever:** is generally between 38 and 38.5°C, does not last long (24-48 hours), and has no consequences
- **Pain:** at the injection site, regardless of redness or swelling



If necessary, use of **ibuprofen or paracetamol** is **effective in treating both fever and pain, thus helping your child to feel better**<sup>2</sup>

DON'T FORGET THAT THE UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS OF VACCINES:

- are mostly unpredictable, random and mild (vaccines are safe!)<sup>4</sup>
- can be easily controlled, starting with the fever and pain<sup>2</sup>
- are always hugely outweighed by the benefits of vaccination compared to the risk of diseases<sup>4</sup>



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