

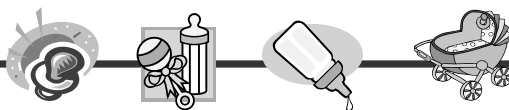
## ***Facts about Immunizations***

- Vaccines are among the most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death. Immunizations protect individuals, families and communities. Not only does immunization protect vaccinated individuals from developing potentially serious diseases, children who are not immunized increase the chance that others in the community will get the disease.
- Immunizations are one of the most important ways parents can protect their children against serious diseases.
- We can now protect children from more vaccine preventable diseases than ever before. Because we prevent more diseases, parents are often not aware what it takes to fully immunize a child. By the age of 2 years, children should be immunized with 4 DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis), 3 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 3 Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b), 1 MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) and 4 PCV (pneumococcal).
- Infants and young children are particularly vulnerable to infectious diseases; that is why it is critical that they are protected through immunization at an early age.
- Vaccine preventable diseases will only remain “uncommon” in the United States, Colorado and Jefferson County as long as the public is protected by immunization.
- Immunizations are extremely safe thanks to advancements in medical research and ongoing review by doctors, researchers, and public health officials. Children are far more likely to be harmed by serious infectious diseases than by immunization.
- Parents and caregivers need to take responsibility for their child’s vaccinations. They are encouraged to become informed consumers and keep a record of each immunization visit.

Jefferson County Department of Health & Environment, 303-232-6301



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