

# Keeping Kids Healthy

## Immunization Updates for Children

### ROCKWOOD CLINIC

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**P**ARENTS FREQUENTLY ASK “is my child done with all his shots now?” The answer is no. Childhood immunizations are continually being developed and improved. Diseases such as measles, mumps and polio that left many baby boomers with serious disabilities are now rarely seen. There are now immunizations to prevent serious diseases such as meningococcal meningitis, hepatitis A and B and human papilloma virus. Check the listing below and make sure that your school age child or adolescent is current on his immunizations.

### Immunizations Required for Kindergarten Registration

**DTAP** Immunizes against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough). First vaccines given at 2, 4, 6 months of age with boosters at 12 – 15 months and pre kindergarten, 4-6 years.

**IPV** Inactivated polio vaccine protects against poliomyelitis which can cause paralysis and death. Should be given at 2, 4, and 6-18 months of age with a booster prior to kindergarten.

**MMR** Measles, Mumps and Rubella (German measles). This combination vaccine protects against Measles that can cause pneumonia, seizures, brain damage and death; Mumps that can cause deafness, meningitis and painful swelling of the testicles or ovaries and Rubella (German measles)



which can cause a miscarriage or serious birth defects if infected during pregnancy. MMR is given at 12-15 months of age and at 4-6 years.

**Varicella (Chickenpox):** Varicella vaccine or documentation of Chickenpox disease is required in the state of Washington. The vaccine is recommended

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between 12 – 18 months of age. Older children who have not had the disease or vaccine should also get it. Chickenpox disease is frequently much more serious in older children, teens and adults.