

ロタウイルスワクチンの接種について

Information Regarding the Rotavirus Vaccination

1 The Rotavirus Infection

The symptoms of gastroenteritis (stomach inflammation) caused by the rotavirus include sudden vomiting, fever and watery diarrhea. In most cases, people naturally recover. However, it is necessary to go to hospital when symptoms like dehydration, convulsions (fits), liver dysfunction, kidney failure, brain inflammation etc., develop. The symptoms of gastroenteritis (stomach inflammation) are known to be most severe upon the initial infection so the goal of the vaccination is to prevent the severe initial rotavirus infection.

2 The Rotavirus Vaccine

There are two vaccines available, Rotarix and RotaTeq. Both are oral vaccines which need to be taken multiple times. During the first vaccination, you will select one of them, and from then on, continue to take the same vaccine as necessary. You cannot change your choice of vaccine afterwards. Both of the vaccines are equally effective and have the same medical effect.

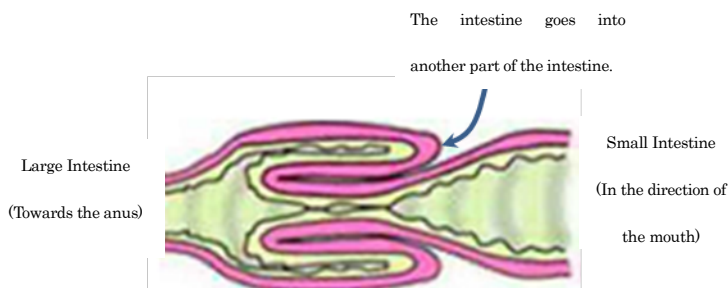
Both vaccines also have a standard intake period for the initial dose which starts from 2 months old to 14 weeks 6 days old (one day before the 15th week since birth). We do not recommend giving the initial vaccination to infants who are 15 weeks old or older.

3 Side-effects of the Rotavirus Vaccine

Possible side-effects include diarrhea, vomiting, intussusception (intestinal blockage) etc. After being vaccinated, the child has a higher risk of intestinal blockage for 1 – 2 weeks so please observe the condition of the child.

【About Intestinal Blockage】

It is a condition where part of the intestine slides into an adjacent part of the intestine, causing a blockage. Even if the child did not undergo the rotavirus vaccination, it is still necessary to be cautious because it is an increasingly common condition among infants around 4 months old. There are instances where surgery may be necessary to treat the blockage. However, in most cases, if treated quickly; it can be treated without surgery. If you notice any of the following symptoms, or if the child's condition is not normal, please see the doctor right away.



Symptoms

- Repeated vomiting
- Repeatedly crying and not feeling well.
- Tiredness. The colour of their face is bad.
- Blood in stool.

4 General Notes

Generally, it is best to vaccinate your child when they are in good health. Please read the following information and decide whether or not to continue with the vaccination so your child can be safely vaccinated.

1) Make sure to read this guide carefully and understand the side-effects. If there is anything that worries you or that you don't understand, consult the doctor who will administer the vaccination. Please do not continue with the vaccination unless you completely consent to the treatment.

2) Please make sure to bring your Maternal and Child Health Handbook (boshi techo).

3) The pre-medical questionnaire contains important information for the doctor to determine if the child can be vaccinated. You are responsible for filling it in.

The vaccination will only be conducted upon confirmation of your understanding of the effects and side-effects, and upon your consent to the treatment.

5 Infants Who Cannot Undergo the Vaccination

1) Infants who clearly have a fever (typically, over 37.5°C).

2) Infants who clearly have a severe acute illness.

3) Infants who have had a reaction to the components in the rotavirus vaccine before or is suspected to have had a reaction.

4) Infants with a medical history of intussusception (intestinal blockage).

5) Infants with high risk of developing intestinal blockage such as those with congenial gastrointestinal disorders (Meckel's diverticulum).

6) Infants with Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID).

7) Other infants that the doctor decides are not suitable to receive the vaccination.

6 Infants Who Need to be Cautious About the Vaccination

1) Infants who are receiving treatment for heart disease, kidney disease, liver disease, blood-related disease, and developmental disorders.

2) Infants who developed fevers or are suspected to have had an allergic reaction such as full body rash within two days after a vaccination.

3) Infants who have had convulsions (fits) before.

4) Infants who have or may have an abnormal immune function. Infants receiving treatment which causes immunosuppression. Infants who have relatives with immunodeficiency.

5) Infants with gastrointestinal disorders (severe or chronic gastrointestinal diseases, infectious gastrointestinal diseases etc.).

6) Infants whose mothers took immunosuppression medicine during their pregnancy and breastfeeding period.

7 Post-Vaccination Notes

1) Please wait at the medical facility and check the patient's condition around 30 minutes after the vaccination before returning home.

2) Please avoid strenuous activity on the day of the vaccination.

3) The infant may be bathed on the day of the vaccination.

4) Please see the doctor immediately if abnormal symptoms such as a high fever, convulsions etc. as well as other changes to the infant's health condition appear after the vaccination.

5) Please see the doctor immediately if any symptom of intussusception (vomiting, crying and not feeling well, tiredness and poor face colour, bloody stools) appears after receiving the vaccination.

6) There are no restrictions to taking solid as well as liquid foods including mother's milk after the vaccination. However,

there is a possibility the infant may vomit after breast feeding if fed straight after vaccination, so we recommend that you nurse them after waiting 30 minutes.

7) For approximately 1 week after the vaccination, the virus will be excreted through the infant's stool. The excreted virus could infect the surrounding people and cause stomach inflammation. We have confirmed that the risk of infection is low but there is still a risk of secondary infection by the virus so please make sure to wash your hands after changing the infant's nappies/ diapers.

8) It is not necessary to take additional vaccination doses even if the infant vomits some of the vaccine solution.

8 Remedial Measures for Damage to Health

Based on the Immunisation Act, if a person who underwent a vaccination suffers damages to their health and the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare certifies that the damages were caused by the vaccination, they become eligible to receive Health Disability Relief Benefits.