

# Rotavirus is a serious disease...

## Make sure your child is protected!

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### What is rotavirus?

Rotavirus is one of the most serious causes of diarrhea in infants and young children.

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### How do you catch rotavirus?

The virus can live on surfaces for months. It spreads when contaminated hands, toys, or other objects touch the mouth.

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### Is rotavirus serious?

Yes. Common symptoms of rotavirus disease include high fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, and diarrhea. Children often stop eating and drinking and become dehydrated (lose fluids).

Around the world, rotavirus kills about a half million infants and young children every year.



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### Is my child at risk?

Yes. Rotavirus is a very common disease in infants and young children. Almost all unvaccinated children get infected with rotavirus before they are 5 years old. Even if you wash your hands and keep everything really clean, your child can still get infected if not vaccinated.

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### How can I protect my child from rotavirus?

You can protect your child from rotavirus with vaccination.

All children should get 2–3 doses (depending on the brand) of rotavirus vaccine starting at 2 months of age. The vaccine is a liquid that is swallowed.

Ask  
your child's  
healthcare provider  
if your child is  
up to date for all  
vaccines!

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► For more information, visit [www.vaccineinformation.org](http://www.vaccineinformation.org)

For other vaccine handouts in this series,  
visit [www.immunize.org/vaccine-summaries](http://www.immunize.org/vaccine-summaries)

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