

# Chickenpox is a serious disease...

## Make sure your child is protected!

### What is chickenpox?

Chickenpox (varicella) is a disease caused by a virus. Most people with chickenpox get very itchy blisters and sores all over their body.



### How do you catch chickenpox?

Chickenpox is spread person-to-person through the air. It is very contagious.

### Is chickenpox serious?

Yes, it can be a serious disease for people of all ages. The disease can cause serious skin infections, pneumonia, brain damage, and even death. Chickenpox is especially dangerous for people whose immune systems are weak because of illness or medications.

### Is my child at risk?

Yes. Chickenpox is still infecting people in the U.S. and the rest of the world. It is extremely contagious and can be spread by an infected person before they even know they're sick.

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

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

You can protect your child from chickenpox with vaccination.



All children should get 2 doses of chickenpox vaccine starting at 1 year of age.

Some teens and adults may also need this vaccine if they didn't get 2 doses of the vaccine or chickenpox disease when they were younger.

▶ 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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