

# Childhood Immunizations

Vaccines help prevent infectious diseases and save lives. Many harmful diseases, once common in the United States, have been controlled by the use of vaccines. It is important to ensure that children receive their immunizations on a regular schedule.

The following links provide information for parents and providers. Please visit these sites and learn how we can continue to keep all children healthy and well.

[www.cdc.gov/nip](http://www.cdc.gov/nip)

The **National Immunization Program (NIP)** is a part of the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**, located in Atlanta, Georgia. As a disease-prevention program, NIP provides leadership for the planning, coordination, and conduct of immunization activities nationwide. Some of the items that can be found on this web site are an immunization schedule and information on the role child care providers can take in immunizations. Much of the information is easily accessible in Spanish language versions, including a *Parents Guide to Childhood Immunizations*.

[www.immunizenc.com](http://www.immunizenc.com)

The **North Carolina Immunization Branch** serves to promote public health through the identification and elimination of vaccine-preventable diseases. This site includes a page for parents and guardians with information about the seven different immunizations children need by the time they start kindergarten. It also has links to frequently asked questions, common misconceptions about vaccines, and North Carolina-specific data.