

INACTIVATED POLIO VACCINE

What is Polio?

Polio is a disease that causes sudden weakness of the arm(s) or leg(s) especially the legs(s). This usually results in a deformity of the part(s) affected.

Who is at risk of Polio?

Everyone is at risk, but often affects children under five (5) years. All children that are not vaccinated are at high risk of getting polio.

What are the signs and symptoms of Polio?

- Sudden weakness of the leg(s) or arm(s)
- Muscle weakness all over the body
- Deep muscle pain
- Stiff neck and back
- Fever
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Nausea, Vomiting, abdominal pain and constipation

NB: Report all sudden weakness of the limbs (legs / arms) to the nearest health facility.

How can one get Polio?

One can get Polio if they drink water or eat food contaminated with faeces of a person infected with Polio virus.

How can Polio be prevented?

- Improved environmental sanitation
- Good personal hygiene (proper hand washing)
- Proper disposal of faeces
- Vaccination against polio virus
- Vaccination against Polio can be through Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) or Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV)

What is Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV)?

- It is an injectable vaccine that prevents polio
- It is very safe and effective

Why is IPV being introduced?

The introduction of Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) into routine immunization schedules is a critical step to achieve a lasting polio-free world.

The primary role of the IPV introduction is to maintain immunity against polio globally.

- It gives extra immunity against Polio.
- Polio-free countries are better protected against polio re-infection or reemergence.

Who should get IPV?

All children at 4 months.

Can IPV be given along with other injections in one visit?

- It is safe to give multiple vaccine injections in one visit.
- Children are protected against multiple diseases during the most vulnerable early months of life.
- Giving multiple vaccinations at one time means fewer vaccination visits for parents.
- It is better for the child to experience one brief moment of discomfort from multiple vaccines than pain on two separate days/visits.

What are the common side effects of IPV?

- Redness and tenderness at the site of the vaccination
- Fever

NB: Report immediately if there are severe reactions after receiving IPV.

How many doses of IPV should a child get?

At least one dose of IPV should be given to a child.

How is IPV administered?

The IPV is administered through an injection on the right thigh.



Inactivated Polio Vaccine



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