



# Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)

## What you need to know about Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)

**Hib vaccine** can prevent **Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) disease**.

- Haemophilus influenzae type b is the most common bacterium in the H. influenzae family and can be prevented through vaccination.
- Hib can cause many different kinds of infections. These infections usually affect children under 5 years of age but can also affect adults with certain medical conditions.
- Hib is spread through coughing or sneezing. Not everyone who has the bacteria will get sick, but they can still spread the bacteria.
- Hib bacteria can cause mild illness, such as ear infections or bronchitis, or they can cause severe illness, such as infections of the blood.
- Severe Hib infection, also called “invasive Hib disease,” requires treatment in a hospital and can sometimes result in death.
- Before Hib vaccine, Hib disease was the leading cause of bacterial meningitis among children under 5 years old in the United States. Meningitis is an infection of the lining of the brain and spinal cord. It can lead to brain damage and deafness.
- Hib infection can also cause:
  - Pneumonia
  - Severe swelling in the throat, making it hard to breathe
  - Infections of the blood, joints, bones, and covering of the heart
  - Death

### Hib Vaccine is a 3 or 4-dose vaccine

depending on the brand.



**Infants** will usually get their first dose of Hib vaccine at 2 months of age and will usually complete the series at 12–15 months of age.

### Children between 12 months and 5 years of age

who have not previously been completely vaccinated against Hib may need 1 or more doses of Hib vaccine.



### Children over 5 years old and adults

usually do not receive Hib vaccine, but it might be recommended for older children or adults whose spleen is damaged or has been removed, including people with sickle cell disease, before surgery to remove the spleen, or following a bone marrow transplant. Hib vaccine may also be recommended for people 5 through 18 years old with HIV.



Data Sourced from CDC, PA-AAP Report on 2021 SILR Data

Hib vaccine may be given as a stand-alone vaccine, or as part of a combination vaccine (a type of vaccine that combines more than one vaccine together into one shot). Ask your health care provider what other vaccines your child will receive at their well visit to be prepared.



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# WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER VACCINATION

It's normal to experience immune response after vaccination, this is how you know the vaccine is doing its job. These side effects are usually mild and disappear on their own in a few days. Some normal immune responses for Hib vaccine include:



Soreness, redness, or swelling at injection sight



Fever

- Tell your vaccination provider if the person getting the vaccine:**
- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of Hib vaccine**, or has any severe, life-threatening allergies
  - In some cases, your health care provider may decide to postpone Hib vaccination until a future visit.
  - People with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting Hib vaccine.
  - Your health care provider can give you more information.

People sometimes faint after medical procedures, including vaccination. Tell your provider if you feel dizzy or have vision changes or ringing in the ears.

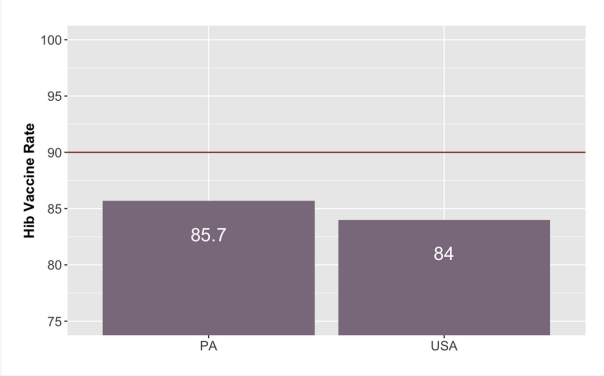
As with any medicine, there is a very remote chance of a vaccine causing a severe allergic reaction, other serious injury, or death.

## Hib Vaccination Rates

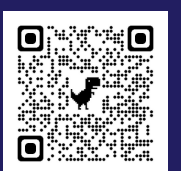
The Healthy People 2020 goal for vaccination coverage is **90%** for the Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine.

\*Pennsylvania and national data are estimates measured by the National Immunization Survey-Child completed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Percentage of Children 35 months old who had received full series of PCV vaccine in 2018 in PA and USA\*



Scan the QR code to connect with the Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition or a local coalition near you!



For more vaccine information go to: [immunizepa.org](https://immunizepa.org)