

MMRV Vaccine

Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella

The **MMRV immunization** is part of the routine Yukon Children's Immunization Program. This immunization is the best way to protect your child against four diseases- measles, mumps, rubella and varicella.

The **MMRV vaccine** is a combination of four vaccines given in one needle. **MMRV immunization** is given as a two-dose series; your child should have received their first dose at one year of age. The second dose is offered to children before they begin school (4 to 6 years old).

This immunization protects against four diseases:

- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Varicella

Measles can cause fever, runny nose, red eyes, and a rash on the face and body. Measles can lead to ear infections, pneumonia, or infections of the brain. Complications include seizures, deafness, permanent brain damage, and even death.

Mumps can cause fever, headache and swollen salivary glands that make the cheeks puff out. Complications include inflammation of the brain, temporary painful swelling of testicles or ovaries, or deafness.

Rubella can cause fever, sometimes a rash, swollen neck glands and joint pains. If a pregnant woman is infected, it can cause multiple birth defects.

Varicella can cause fever, and an itchy rash. Complications include pneumonia, skin infections, brain inflammation, and death. If a pregnant woman is infected, it can cause multiple birth defects.

Why is the MMRV vaccine recommended?

This immunization is the best way to protect against measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella.

Getting vaccinated protects others as well as your child.

Possible side effects of the vaccine:

Common reactions to the immunization may include redness, tenderness, and swelling at the injection site. A mild fever and/or a rash may appear six to 23 days after vaccination.

Side effects of the immunization are easily relieved by: Applying a cold/damp compress to the site, administering acetaminophen or ibuprofen for temperatures 38.5°C or higher. See your health care provider if your symptoms are severe or last longer than 48 hours.

It is important to stay in the clinic for 15 minutes after getting any immunization because there is a rare possibility of developing a severe allergic reaction, which is treatable at the clinic. This happens to fewer than 1 in 1 million people. If it happens after you leave the clinic, call 911 or the local emergency number.

www.yukonimmunization.ca

