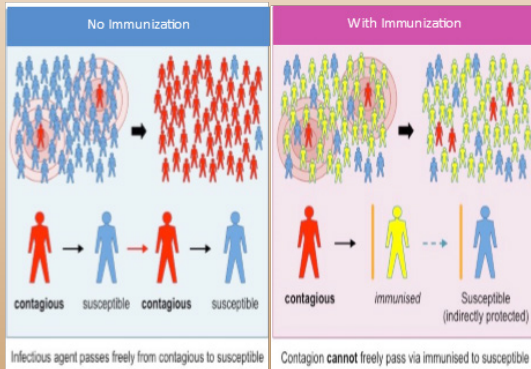




What is Community Immunity?

When a significant portion of a population provides protection for the rest of the population who do not have immunity. With more people immunized, there are less people that can pass the disease on to other people, so the disease does not spread as easily. This protects those in the community who cannot get vaccinations due to a compromised immune system (such as newborns, Elders, and those with chronic illnesses like cancer and lupus).



—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



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Immunization Misconceptions

Safe Healthy Children
Immunization Program



Interested in
More Information?

www.gptchb.org

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html>

Common Misconceptions About Vaccines

Misconception 1:

Immunizations can infect my child with the disease the vaccine is trying to prevent?

Fact: Vaccines may cause mild symptoms in 1 in 1,000,000 people who receive the vaccine. These symptoms may resemble those of the disease but are ACTUALLY just the body's immune response to the vaccine, and do NOT signal infection.



Misconception 2:

Vaccines can cause Autism?

Fact: The paper that originally posed this idea was 100% discredited and the author lost his medical license. Numerous follow-up studies have NOT found any connection between vaccines and autism.

Misconception 3:

Vaccines can have damaging, long-term side effects that can be fatal?

Fact: There is NO credible study to support this misconception. Extensive testing is required by the Food and Drug Administration to ensure the safety of vaccines.



Misconception 4:

Many vaccine preventable diseases are rare in the U.S. so we do not need to vaccinate for them anymore?

Fact: Although these vaccine-preventable diseases are rare in the U.S., they are still prevalent in many countries throughout the world. With increased international travel, it is important that we continue to vaccinate our children against these dangerous diseases so that if the disease is brought to the U.S. by a traveler, our children are protected and safe.



Every child should have the opportunity to be safe and healthy.

You can protect your child!

It is important for children to receive ALL of their scheduled vaccinations in order for them to be safe and healthy.

Check with your provider to make sure your children are up-to-date on all their shots.
