



Vaccines & Immunizations

Immunization: The Basics

Definition of Terms

Let's start by defining several basic terms:

Immunity: Protection from an infectious disease. If you are immune to a disease, you can be exposed to it without becoming infected.

CDC Vaccine Defintion 01/31/21

Vaccine: A product that stimulates a person's immune system to **produce immunity** to a specific disease, protecting the person from that disease. Vaccines are usually administered through needle injections, but can also be administered by mouth or sprayed into the nose.

Vaccination: The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce immunity to a specific disease.

Immunization: A process by which a person becomes protected against a disease through vaccination. This term is often used interchangeably with vaccination or inoculation.

Immunization Basics | CDC

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Links to Basic Immunization Information

The Wayback Machine - <https://web.archive.org/web/20211031015641/https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/imz-basics.htm>



Immunization: The Basics

Understanding mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines

mRNA vaccines are a new type of vaccine to protect against infectious diseases. Learn about how [COVID-19 mRNA vaccines work](#).

Definition of Terms

Immunity: Protection from an infectious disease. If you are immune to a disease, you can be exposed to it without becoming infected.

CDC Vaccine Defintion 10/31/21

Vaccine: A preparation that is used to **stimulate the body's immune response** against diseases. Vaccines are usually administered through needle injections, but some can be administered by mouth or sprayed into the nose.

Vaccination: The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce protection from a specific disease.

Immunization: A process by which a person becomes protected against a disease through vaccination. This term is often used interchangeably with vaccination or inoculation.