

Facts about the diseases the "Boostrix Polio" vaccine protects against:

Diphtheria

Diphtheria is called 'true croup' and is an acute infection in the upper respiratory tract caused by diphtheria bacteria. The bacteria produce toxins that cause great swelling in the mucous membranes in the throat so that it becomes difficult to breathe. In addition, the toxins can attack heart, kidney and nerve tissue and damage their function. The disease can be fatal. During and just after the Second World War there were diphtheria epidemics in Norway. After vaccination was introduced in 1952, only a few cases of the disease have occurred after infection abroad. Diphtheria still occurs in parts of Europe and in other parts of the world.

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Tetanus

Tetanus is caused by a bacterium that can be found in soil. Tetanus can occur if the bacteria come into contact with a wound. The disease is not contagious from person to person. The bacterium produces toxins that attack the nervous system and cause muscle stiffness and painful cramps. The disease has a high mortality rate. It is rarer in the Nordic region than in warmer regions.

Whooping cough (Pertussis)

Whooping cough (Pertussis) is a respiratory infection with prolonged (6–12 weeks) and severe coughing fits. Whooping cough can lead to respiratory arrest in infants and young children, encephalitis with subsequent brain damage, and in rare cases to death. Whooping cough is especially dangerous for infants. In older children and adults, the disease can be long-lasting and troublesome, but rarely life-threatening. The disease is highly contagious - close to 100 per cent contracted the disease before we started vaccinating.

Poliomyelitis

Poliomyelitis is a viral disease that usually causes cold symptoms, body aches or an upset stomach. It can cause inflammation of the brain (meningitis) and attack nerve cells which can lead to permanent paralysis. Deaths occur. Europe was declared polio-free in 2002, but the disease still occurs in some countries in Africa and Asia. Unvaccinated people can become infected during travel and can infect other unvaccinated people after returning home.

Common side effects: Redness, swelling and pain at the injection site may occur.

Facts about the diseases the vaccine "Priorix" protects against:

Measles

Measles is our most serious childhood disease. The disease is highly contagious. Among those who grew up before the vaccine became available, more than 99 percent contracted measles. The disease begins with cold symptoms and high fever, followed by a rash. Measles is often followed by complications such as pneumonia, bronchitis and otitis media. Serious consequences such as inflammation of the brain (encephalitis), permanent brain damage and death occur. All over the world, people die from measles every year, most of whom are children. Measles outbreaks with deaths also occur among unvaccinated people in our part of the world

Mumps

Mumps is a viral infection that causes fever and swelling of the parotid glands. The most common complication is mumps meningitis (meningitis), which usually resolves without permanent damage. A more serious complication is permanent deafness. If boys get mumps after puberty, the virus can attack the testicles and lead to reduced fertility, but probably not sterility.

Rubella

Rubella is a mild disease that causes fever and rashes in both children and adults. If a pregnant woman gets rubella, the disease can cause serious damage to the foetus. The risk of malformations is up to 80 per cent in the case of illness in the first part of pregnancy. The most common mode of infection for pregnant women is contact with children who have the disease. In some outbreaks, unvaccinated men have been sources of infection.

Common side effects: Redness, swelling and pain at the injection site may occur.

The vaccine against measles, mumps and rubella is known as the MMR vaccine. The abbreviation comes from the English names of the diseases: Measles, Mumps and Rubella. The vaccine is a combination vaccine that contains live, weakened measles, mumps, and rubella viruses.

Source: FHI.no