

Didsbury Medical Centre

Partners: Drs Baxter, Ashworth, Hunter & Coupes

Advice for parents following Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccine (MMR)

You have protected your child against 3 very unpleasant and often serious diseases. Most children are fit and healthy after the injection.

A reaction to the measles vaccine can occur 5 to 10 days after immunisation and last for 24-48 hours. Your child may be hot, miserable and off their food and some children may develop a rash.

2-3 weeks after the vaccine, some children develop a slight swelling on one or both sides of the neck as a reaction to the mumps component.

These symptoms do not mean the child is infectious, and they will settle down very quickly.

What to do

You should offer your child frequent cold drinks. Do not worry if your child is not hungry, they will eat again once they are feeling better.

If your child is feverish:

- Check the room temperature is not either too hot nor too cold.
- Check your child does not have too many clothes or bedclothes on. Never try to sweat out a fever.
- Do not allow your child to shiver as this will increase the temperature further.
- Give paracetamol sugar free liquid or ibuprofen sugar free suspension as directed on the bottle. Older children will be able to tolerate paracetamol tablets or ibuprofen tablets as directed on the packet. If your child's temperature does not reduce in 4 hours repeat the dose. If the temperature does not reduce after this second dose seek medical advice.
- At the injection site a hard raised lump may appear and often takes a while to disappear. This is normal. Do not squeeze the lump, leave it alone. Do not cover with plasters, allow the air to get to it as this assists healing. Carry on with normal activities, including bathing and swimming, but dry well afterward.

If this does not help or you are worried, seek advice by ringing NHS111 or speak with your doctor.



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