



## GUIDE TO VACCINATIONS

Immunizations and vaccinations can be touchy subjects for the parenting community. Pull up any parenting message board and you are bound to find numerous threads with heated debates. In recent years, there have been some studies linking early vaccinations to later developmental disability while other studies cannot establish a link between the two. As moms, we want to do what's right for our babies, and would certainly never do anything to harm them. And it can be a tough decision - vaccinate now and risk the theory being true; or not vaccinate and take the risk that our child may develop the condition the vaccination was to protect against. As moms, we are torn.

If you thought you could come here and read our article and be persuaded one way or the other, we're sorry to disappoint, but you won't be getting our personal opinion. What we will give you is information on what is required in order to enroll your child in a childcare facility. We could try to paraphrase and create our own chart, but why reinvent the wheel? The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a [recommended vaccination schedule](#).



You'll find that to enroll your child anywhere, you will need to produce copies of his/her shot records. If your religious or personal beliefs prevent vaccinations, you can submit an official affidavit to that affect, but be prepared for such affidavit to cause confusion - many facilities will simply not know what to do. Your child may be refused admittance, as only schools that receive state funding are required to accept an affidavit in lieu of vaccination records. You can learn more about how to obtain an affidavit from the state of Texas, and other important state vaccination information by visiting the [Texas Department of Health](#). If you are not in Texas, your state's guidelines may vary - you can find out by visiting the your state's Department of Health.

*"What? That's it?"* You say, *"I need advice on what to do! A decision either way."* We understand that, really. But we are not scientists or doctors with the qualifications to render an opinion on this topic. We can tell you that we read the same stories you do, and we have the same fears you do. But we try to follow it up with research not based in sensationalism. You can get more information from the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and discuss this important decision with your pediatrician.

We may never have a definitive answer to the vaccination debate in our lifetime. All we can do is continue to research the possible link, and support the research for cures. Research, discuss, research again and decide. Then know that you are doing the best you can for your child. We believe in you.

*About MomCheck: [MomCheck](#) is an innovative, unbiased resource that provides parents with a better, more efficient and smarter way to shop for childcare. [MomCheck](#)'s knowledgeable agents evaluate facilities in person, publish reports of these tours and deliver in-depth information on all licensed childcare facilities in an easily accessible online database.*