



Hib Vaccine (Haemophilus Influenzae Type B Vaccine)



Overview

This vaccine protects against Hib disease. That's a bacterial infection that spreads through the air in coughs and sneezes. It can be serious, especially for babies and young children.

How it works

The vaccine is made with parts taken from dead Hib bacteria. When a person gets the vaccine, their immune system makes antibodies to fight it. If that person is exposed to the live virus, they are protected.

How it's given

How is the vaccine given? It usually comes in a series of three or four injections. The first is given when a child is two months old. The last is given between 12 and 15 months. Hib vaccine may also be given as part of a combination vaccine. These protect against more than one disease.

Who should get it

Who should get a Hib vaccine? It's recommended for every child under age five. Older kids and adults usually don't need it. If the first dose causes a bad reaction, don't get another dose. And it shouldn't be given to a person who's very sick. Ask a doctor for more info.

