After your vaccination

What to expect and when to seek help

Keep your vaccination record. Expected reactions and their timing depend on the vaccine and your age.

Before leaving the clinic

- Stay for the observation period advised by the vaccinator. Confirm the vaccine name, the date, and whether another dose is due.
- Ask for the vaccine patient leaflet and advice about expected reactions. Tell staff immediately if you feel faint, dizzy or unwell.

At home

- A sore arm, mild redness or a small lump may occur. Some vaccines cause a temporary temperature or other symptoms; the timing varies.
- Rest as needed and drink normally. Do not overdress a child with a temperature. If pain or fever needs treatment, ask which medicine is suitable for the person and follow its label or the clinician's instructions.
- Do not routinely give medicine to prevent fever unless specifically advised for that vaccine. A child's dose depends on the product, age and sometimes weight.

Contact the clinic

- Get advice about severe, worsening, unexpected or persistent symptoms, or reactions that do not settle as the vaccinator explained.
- Do not assume every new symptom is caused by the vaccine. A young infant with a fever or a child who looks unwell may need prompt medical assessment.

Emergency: call 112

Trouble breathing, swelling of the lips, tongue or throat, collapse, or a child becoming limp or unresponsive may indicate a severe allergic reaction. Seek emergency help immediately.

My vaccination record

After your vaccination

Take your record to future vaccination appointments.

Keep the vaccine leaflet with this booklet and note any reaction and when it started.

Vaccine name and dose number

Date given / batch number (staff)

Expected reactions and timing

Medicine advice, if needed

Next dose due

Who to contact with concerns

Questions or notes for my appointment

Sources and further reading

Healthway: vaccination aftercare
https://www.healthwaymalta.com/patient-instructions.php?topic=vaccination-aftercare

UKHSA: what to expect after vaccinations (young children)
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-expect-after-vaccinations/what-to-expect-after-vaccinations

General information. Follow your individual clinical plan. Sources checked 31 October 2026; review due October 2027.