

Fainting & Vaccines

Information for Parents:

Recommendations from the CDC regarding vaccinations for pre-teens and teens ages 11-18:

Many children age 11 - 18 years are getting one or more vaccinations at their well visits. These may include Menquadfi (a meningitis vaccine), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis booster), or HPV/Gardasil (human papilloma virus vaccine).



While there is a very rare risk of vaccine reactions, fainting in this age group is occasionally reported following vaccinations. Fainting itself is generally not serious, but harm from related falls or other accidents can cause injury. For this reason, we recommend that children ages 11-18 who receive vaccines wait for 15 minutes after their shot(s) to limit the risks of fainting.

Signs of fainting

- dizziness
- lightheadedness
- paleness
- unsteady balance
- vision changes
- fast or irregular heartbeat
- sweating
- nausea or vomiting



What to do if your child feels faint

- Assist them in lying down on the floor.
- Once the child is lying down & safe from falling, alert a nurse.
- Place a wet towel on their forehead.
- Offer juice or water.

Thank you for following this recommendation. We want to ensure your children remain safe and avoid injury in the rare event they feel lightheaded.