

Notice on the 2nd Term Diphtheria+Tetanus Combined Vaccine (*nishukongo*)
(Final recommendation)

Tsukuba City

The above vaccination is conducted at the vaccination cooperating institutions, and we are sending this notice when the child becomes the age of 11 years.

According to the vaccination record in our office, your child has not received the 2nd term Diphtheria+Tetanus combined vaccination. With the approach of the end of the target age, we are sending this notice to recommend once again for your child to take the vaccination without fail.

The vaccination this time is additional to the three combined vaccine (*sanshukongo*) and is important to enhance resistance (immunity) which has been gradually diminishing since the 1st dose at the time of infant. There was a report of an incident of tetanus of a teen age person, though such a case is very rare in Japan. Be sure to receive this additional vaccination during the recommended period.

Please read the instruction *Before Receiving DT Vaccination* enclosed herein carefully, learn about the necessity and side effects, and provide vaccination when the health condition of the child is good.

I should apologize if your child has already received the vaccination before this notice reaches you.

1. Target Age

Age 11-12 (through the day before 13-year-old birthday)

※This vaccination is not applied to children who moved in Tsukuba and had already received DT combined vaccine before move in.

2. Place

Vaccination Cooperating Agencies (See the list on the reverse side)

※If you wish to receive vaccination at a facility not in the list, please refer to “Before Receiving Routine Vaccination at Facilities not designated by the City” in the City’s Home Page, or contact us.

3. Fees: Free

※If the child is over the target years, whole cost shall be paid by you. (about ¥6,000)

4. Requirements

① Pre-medical questionnaire for DT Combined Vaccine

② Mother and Child Health Handbook

③ Health Insurance Card etc.

※Please use the pre-medical questionnaire sheet with a stamp “REISUE 「再発行」” and enclosed herein in the individual notification sent sometime before.

5. Others

• The child must be accompanied by a parent or a guardian. If parent/guardian is not available, your representative must bring your letter of attorney to the clinic. For more details, please refer to City’s HP or contact Vaccination and Infection Control Measures Office.

■ Contact ■ Vaccination and Infection Control Measures Office 029-883-1111 (Main number)

Here is important information on the vaccination. Please read carefully and learn about DT Vaccination.

Before Receiving DT (Diphtheria-Tetanus) Vaccination

1 About the Diseases

■ What is Diphtheria?

Diphtheria is transmitted by airborne droplets of corynebacterium diphtheria. It infects mainly throat but also nose. The symptoms include a fever about 38°C, a sore throat, hoarseness (coughing like a dog barking) and vomiting. It is rare but has been reported that an adherent membrane (pseudomembrane) covers the throat and it causes difficulty breathing and/or cyanosis; and this can lead to death. About two to three weeks after being contracted are critical since the bacteria produces exotoxin and it may cause a cardiomyopathy or nerve palsy. There is 0-1 patient per year in Japan in recent years. Even though you are infected, only 10% of people exhibit disease but the rest just carry the bacteria. However, such individuals can transmit the bacteria.

■ What is Tetanus?

Tetanus is a disease caused by the bacteria called clostridium tetani, which does not spread from person to person but the bacteria in the soil invade human body from a wound. When the bacteria increase in human body, they produce toxin which causes convulsion of the muscles. The symptoms start with difficulty opening the mouth, and then convulsion begins to start all over the body. If a patient gets treatment too late, the disease can lead a patient to death.

Half of the patients get tetanus from stab wounds that humans cannot realize. There are always chances to get contracted because the germs are in the soil. You cannot become immune to tetanus by natural infection. Therefore, vaccination is recommended to protect against tetanus.

2 DT (Diphtheria+Tetanus) Combined Vaccine

■ Vaccination Method

0.1ml of Adsorbed DT combined vaccine by subcutaneous vaccination

■ Side Effects

The side effects mainly reported are local reactions such as redness, swelling and lump at the injection site. These local reactions usually disappear naturally in a few days but sometimes a lump remains for months even though it shrinks. Occasionally, the whole upper arm swells. If serious side effects do not occur, but a high fever or convulsion are recognized or something is wrong, please consult your child's doctor immediately.

*****Please Turn Over*****

3 Precautions for Vaccination

(1) Children who cannot receive vaccinations are those who:

1. have a fever above 37.5°C just before the vaccination
2. are now contracting a serious acute disease
3. been infected by measles, rubella, chickenpox or mumps within a month
4. experienced anaphylactic shock by a certain vaccine or an ingredient of vaccines
5. been advised by a doctor not to be vaccinated

What is anaphylactic shock?

Anaphylactic shock is a severe allergic reaction that occurs within 30 minutes after vaccination. Reactions —sweating, acute swollen face, serious hives all over the body, nausea, difficulty vocalizing, difficulty breathing—can be serious as to put the whole body into a shock state.

(2) Children who need to consult well with a doctor before vaccination are those who:

1. are receiving treatments for heart, kidney, liver or blood diseases or development disorder
2. had a fever and/or allergic reactions such as hives within two days after vaccinations in the past
3. experienced convulsions in the past
4. have been diagnosed as immunodeficiency or have a relative who is diagnosed as congenital immunodeficiency
5. may have allergic reactions to ingredients of vaccines

4 If Your Child Needs Special Care for Vaccination

If your doctor judges that your child needs special care for vaccination, he/she can receive vaccination at the designated medical facility listed below. Consult with your child's doctor well and receive a notice letter (*yobo sesshu yo chui-sha shokaijo*(予防接種要注意者紹介状). If your child regularly visits one of the hospitals indicated in the box below, get the notice— '*Instruction for Vaccination*'(*yobo sesshu no shijisho* 予防接種の指示書)—from your child's doctor and follow the necessary procedure.

The medical facilities that accept children who need special care for vaccination
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Tsukuba University Hospital, Tsuchiura Kyodo General Hospital, Tsukuba Medical Center Hospital, JA Toride Medical Center, Ibaraki Children's Hospital

5 Relief System for Injury to Health with Vaccination

If you need treatment at a medical facility or get damages to your health such as a disability that prevents from living as before due to the side effects of the vaccination, you can receive benefits based on the Preventive Vaccination Act. However, mayors pay benefits only when the Minister of Health, Labour and Health approved that the health damage was caused by the vaccination.

■ Contact ■ Vaccination and Infection Control Measures Office 029-883-1111 (Main number)
