



18 December 2013

FDA ADVISORY  
No. **2013-067**

**SUBJECT: CONSUMER INFORMATION ON IMMUNIZATION OF  
CHILDREN AGAINST VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES**

The Department of Health (DOH) launched the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) in 1976 to ensure that infants, children and mothers have access to routinely recommended infant or childhood vaccines. Six vaccine-preventable diseases were initially included in the EPI, namely tuberculosis (TB), poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and measles (*tigdas*). The DOH EPI has saved a lot of lives and prevented the risks of serious consequences of childhood infectious disease, like permanent disability, at no cost to the families.

In 2002, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that 1.4 million of deaths among children under 5 years of age were caused by infectious diseases that could have been prevented by routine vaccination. This represents 14% of global total mortality in children under 5 years of age.

The DOH established the National Adverse Event Following Immunization (NAEFI) Programme Expert Review Committee to oversee access and safe delivery or administration of vaccines to all children and adults all over the country. Vaccines and other biological products are regulated by the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), a science-based National Competent Authority under the DOH. The FDA ensures that all registered vaccines are safe, effective and of good quality.

Patients may experience some side effects, which are usually minor and short-lived. Vaccine products or vaccination may induce extremely rare adverse events. The FDA has established an on-line Adverse Drug Reaction/AEFI reporting system for consumers ([https://www.fda.gov.ph/sysFDA\\_WorkFlow/en/classic/63866899151ef25b75f7f59042808866/ADR\\_Form.php](https://www.fda.gov.ph/sysFDA_WorkFlow/en/classic/63866899151ef25b75f7f59042808866/ADR_Form.php)). The FDA has also instituted an on-line Public Assistance, Information, and Receiving (PAIR) Consumer and Complaint Desk (<http://www.fda.gov.ph/ereport>) for more information on health products.





Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**



Parents and guardians are advised to see their doctors or healthcare providers on how their children could be fully immunized. Vaccination ensures healthy children. If the patient is under medication or has a history of allergy, it is important that the doctor or the healthcare provider is informed. Should there be any concerns, please inform the FDA via [report@fda.gov.ph](mailto:report@fda.gov.ph) or call tel. no. 857-1990.

For more information or clarification, kindly email us at [info@fda.gov.ph](mailto:info@fda.gov.ph).

  
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